

Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
09/15/2021	Virtual meeting	9 AM	Noon

  

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
Christina Higby	PARC@oda.state.or.us	503.986.5105

PARC Member Agencies Present

- Christina Higby**- Citizen Advocate Liaison, Active PARC Board Coordinator (ODA)
- Michael Babbitt**, PARC Board Co-Chair- *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)* **Rose Kachadoorian**- PARC Board Administrator, Program Manager (ODA)
- Curtis Cude**- PARC Board Co-Chair, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*
- Jamie Kometz**- Special Operations Unit, Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
- Toby Primbs**- Program Manager (ODA)
- Nathan Agalzoff**- Incentives Field Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)*
- Amy Cross**- Project Coordinator, *National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)*
- Anne Hayden-Lesmeister**- Water Quality, Quantity Program, *Ore. Dept of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)*
- Garnet Cooke**- Pesticide Coordinator, *Oregon Occupational Safety and Health (OR-OSHA)*
- Kate Jackson**- Western Regional Liaison (DEQ)
- Anne Marie Duncan**- Nurse manager, *Oregon Poison Center (OPC)*

PARC Consultants Present

- Kirstin Yeomans**- Intern, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
- Fred Berman**- Co-Investigator, NPIC, *Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU)*

Other Persons Present

- Warren Hanson**- National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)
- Colton Bond**- Certification and Training, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
- Kaci Buhl**- Associate Professor, Oregon State University (OSU)
- Tom Tripolone**- Pesticide Investigator, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
- Takuho (Taku) Nagamine**- Pools Regulatory Coordinator, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
- Matthew Bucy**- Pesticide Product Registration Specialist, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
- Katie Murray**- Executive Director, *Oregonians for Food and Shelter (OFS)*

## Introductions and Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with housekeeping and review of the agenda. July's PARC Board minutes were reviewed and recommended for revision as needed.

## Agency Updates

Curtis Cude

PARC Board Co-Chair, *OHA*

1) Staffing

- a. Pest Program Coordinator position has been vacant since the beginning of July. It is currently in the recruiting queue. It has not been posted yet. When it does come out it will be a two week open competitive position. For those of you who are interested it is a Program Analyst 2 position. I anticipate for this to come out within the next two to three weeks.

Garnet Cooke

Coordinator, Pesticide and Occupational Health Program, *OHA*

1) Fires

- a. Last season I added a section onto my pesticide storage presentation that included wildfire preparedness for pesticide storage areas. What I hope we can do through PARC is to get a cohesive fact sheet out. We'd like to work with DEQ, Office of State Fire Marshal, and ODA to assist in disseminating the information.

2) Pesticide Symposium

- a. Our venue is no longer renting out space. We are currently looking for a new location to have our Pesticide Symposium next March. We open to recommendations.

Anne Hayden-Lesmeister

Water Quality, Quantity Program, *ODFW*

1) None.

Jamie Kometz

Special Operations Unit, *OSFM*

1) Emergency Conflagration

- a. In August we had fire fighters mobilize to two emergency conflagration acts that were declared. These included the Middle Port Complex in Lane County and the Payton Meadow Fire in Lake County. We also had resources mobilized through the Oregon Fire Mutual Aide System for immediate response to the Skyline Complex and the Devil's Knob Complex in Douglas County. Also, in August we had two task forces mobilized from Washington for assistance.

2) Fire Prevention Month

- a. October is fire prevention month. The theme this year is "Know the Sound of the Chirp". The campaign this year kicks off with an emphasis on recognizing the sound that the smoke detector makes. We will be rolling out campaign materials to our fire service partners in late September. Each week we will have a different message on social media on what a signal chart means as well as when the appropriate time is to replace your smoke alarm.

Kate Jackson

Western Regional Liaison, *DEQ*

1) Fires

- a. There was a significant amount of fire smoke drift, even though we did not have fire directly affecting us. Because of the number of fires in the West, the EPA and the National Fire Information Center have set up several new websites that provide people with access to air quality information. There has been a lot of interest from communities that are impacted by all this drifting smoke on how to make use of that information and when to make decisions about when to cancel sporting events. ODF is planning to apply for an incinerator permit to use on a demonstration basis.

2) Inter-agency Coordination

- a. The Hedges Creek roofing materials spill was aided by Christina's organization of debriefing and organizational calls for that emergency response. An enforcement notice has already gone out from DEQ

for penalties.

- b. We are still working on the incident involving an aerial applicator at the Ontario Airport. We have had a whole series of coordinating meetings that have been terrific. We have also been fortunate to get EPA involved in doing an investigation and potentially clean up.

### 3) Sampling Project for PFAS

- a. OHA is doing a sampling project for PFAS at 20 public water systems later this month. EPA is funding DEQs lab staff to do the sample collection and analysis. OHA and EPA are preparing press release materials around that project.

Kaci Buhl

Associate Professor, *OSU*

#### 1) Publication

- a. Amy Cross and I as well as some other authors just had a paper published in the American Journal of Public Health essentially finding that hiring a professional for bed bug control can reduce the risk of misapplication and human exposure. It's a pretty exciting piece. It took us two years to put it together. There were four rounds of peer review.

Fred Berman

Co-Investigator, *NPIC*

#### 1) Fires

- a. We had an event in Corvallis (Oak Creek Valley) just a few months ago. There is only one egress in the valley in case of an emergency. We had an exercise where the whole valley was activated. It was a simulated wildfire. Many lessons were learned. Generally, it went very smoothly getting everyone out through just one portal. There was some difficulty getting through gates that pass-through land trust land and OSU forestry land. There is also a lot of pesticide storage in this area (private individuals). I wonder if this is an issue that should be addressed through some kind of public service announcement, or if this is a fact that firefighters must simply accept.
- b. Rose Kachadoorian, Program Manager, ODA- Most of our agencies have social media platforms. I wonder if someone should put something together addressing fires and their home and garden pesticides. We should consider promoting education in this area. I'm sure that's something that OSU could do. It certainly sounds like the storage of pesticides in association with fires is an emerging issue. Let's put this on the to-do list and figure out who will be doing what and who our target audience is.

Nathan Agalzoff

Incentives Field Coordinator, *ODF*

#### 1) Senate Bill 1602 and FERNS Functionality

- a. This allows more real-time communication between notifiers and interested public. We will be looking at some internal and external training opportunities coming out in November.

#### 2) Staffing

- a. We are adding to post-fire recovery work. We should have these people in place by the first of October.

## PARC Updates

Christina Higby

Community Advocate Liaison, *ODA*

#### 1) Coordination

- a. There were a couple PARC Board coordination meetings centered around Hedge Creek. I do want to thank DEQ. They did a great job with coordinating the emergency response. There was also great collaboration with DEQ at the Ontario Airport as well as the State Fire Marshal, OHA, OSHA, and ODA on our efforts to address site contamination.

#### 2) Ivermectin

- a. We created a PARC case related to Ivermectin exposure that's been going on in relation to COVID-19. People are taking Ivermectin over the counter. They are buying it at local stores that are meant for animals, taking it, and having adverse reactions. OPC and OHA are tracking those instances. I think it would be helpful at a future PARC board meeting to get an update on how many cases have come in so far. In the month of August, OPC received 33 calls related to this issue.

## PARC Board Special Presentations

### **Descriptive Analysis of PEST cases 2011-2020-** Kirstin Yeomans (OSU)

OHA/PEST tracks pesticide exposure, as well as reported symptoms, routes of exposure, onset and duration of symptoms from these exposures. OHA created a descriptive analysis of PEST case trends for 2011-2020. The last time they had created a report like this was for 2009-2011. Of the 1439 reports that came into PEST during that time, there were 992 cases (751 with possible exposure, 103 with probable exposure, and 138 with definite exposure) with varying severity (89.2% low, 8.5% moderate, 0.8% high severity, and 1.4% fatality). The most common locations for exposure were at private residences followed by agriculture.

Key findings:

- There was an increase in acute pesticide illnesses starting in 2019, with an increase in severity and in fatalities
- Hispanics are overrepresented in relation to pesticide incidents in the state, potentially due to language barriers
- Most common contributing factors related to pesticide illnesses were improper applications, improper personal protective equipment, and drift.

### **Swimming Pools and Disinfectant Issues-** Taku Nagamine (OHA) & Matt Bucy (ODA)

Most disinfectants registered for use in pools have a signal word of DANGER. The most common active ingredients used in pool disinfectants are calcium hypochlorite and the chlorinated isocyanurates. Something that is unique to the labels of disinfecting pool chemicals is a physical and chemical hazard section.

OHA is working on projects related to the regulation of pool chemicals. They are using community outreach through local public health authorities as well as community organizations (including the Oregon Recreation and Parks Association and the Portland Area Aquatic Council) to help engage with the community. They are also using routine and complaint investigations to help educate and regulate the storage and handling of pool disinfectants. With the storage of pool disinfectants, OHA approves the plans and designs prior to implementation. OHA is also in the process of creating guidance documents. Unfortunately, as of right now OHA has no real jurisdiction with private pools, but they still include resources on their website with pool chemical safety information for the public.

### **Right to Know Reportable Quantities Program-** Garnet Cook (OR-OSHA), Chuck McKay & Todd Raska (State Fire Marshal's Office)

If pesticides are stored on site for more than 24 hours, they are required to report that to the State Fire Marshal's office. The substances that are required for reporting are those that have a safety data sheet, physical or health hazard statement, or are considered to be hazardous waste. In addition, any substance that is 500 gallons of liquid, 500 pounds of solids, or 500 cubic feet of gas must also be reported. If the substance is highly toxic or explosive, those reporting quantities drop to 5 gallons, 10 pounds, and 20 cubic feet.

Pesticides dealers are required to report the pesticides they have. On farms, pesticides used in the growth of a crop are not required to be reported. The State Fire Marshal's office requests that these chemicals are reported, but they do not have to do so. If the farmer does report the pesticides, they are not charged any fees. For pest control companies, if the products are stored at their place of business they are required to report. If the products they use are stored at the farm or site of application, there is no requirement to report the pesticides.

### **Pest Emergency- School IPM-** Colton Bond (ODA)

The School IPM law outlines how, where, and what kinds of pesticides can be used on school grounds. First, it requires that school

adopt cultural methods of control, in line with integrated pest management methods. If pesticides are needed, only low toxicity products can be applied. In addition, products that are possible or probable human carcinogens are not allowed for use. The law also outlines the licenses necessary for applicators, as well the notification requirements before and after the application.

Depending on the situation, schools can declare a 'Pest Emergency'. The School IPM coordinator is the only person that can declare this. If this is done, it grants the school more flexibility in what they use on the school grounds. A 'Pest Emergency' is defined as an urgent need to eliminate or mitigate a pest situation that threatens the health or safety of people on site or the structural integrity of the building. Despite this added flexibility, this does not allow pesticides to be used inconsistently with their labeling. ODA is currently in the process of developing a fact sheet about the subject. The agency also recently received a grant from the EPA to develop School IPM manuals.

### PARC Case Discussion

Michael Babbitt, Pesticide Investigator (ODA)

- 1) School IPM
  - a. ODA's response (enforcement) to a case involving School IPM will be going out shortly. We will have enforcement action involving the use of product off site. The big thing was using products without using the emergency declaration process. Because the product was a RUP, that puts it into civil penalties land. We have multiple parties responsible for that. It is a pretty substantial penalty as these things go.
- 2) Pool Water Disposal
  - a. This currently not something in any regulatory realm in the state of Oregon. The concern is keeping it out of surface water. It may be released on one's own property so long as the PH level is acceptable and it does not come into contact with any surface waters.
- 3) Sodium Hydrochloride
  - a. This was used to disinfect sanitary sewage. This occurred in Coos Bay. There was a report of a level at 7.2 mg of chlorine. This is considered high, even as a level you try to maintain as a residual. I did contact the city and confirmed the use of a sodium hydrochloride product for disinfectant. ODA has not responded because there is no indication that there was misuse of the product, but other agencies are aware and addressing the issue.
- 4) Hedges Creek
  - a. ODA will take licensing actions here. DEQ has already issued its enforcement action. Our enforcement action has yet to commence but will do so before too long.

### Public Comment

None.