

# March PARC Board Meeting Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
3/15/2025	Virtual meeting	9:00AM	11:00AM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
Warren Hanson	warren.hanson@ODA.oregon.gov	971-600-7447

## PARC Member Agencies Present

**Warren Hanson**, PARC Board Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*  
**Jen Seamans**, Program Manager, *Pesticide Exposure, Safety and Tracking Program, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*  
**Gilbert Uribe Valdez**, PARC Board Administrator, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*  
**Tim Moss**, Forest Practices Act Field Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)*  
**Ted Bunch**, Senior Policy Analyst/Legislative Coordinator, *Oregon OSHA (OR-OSHA)*  
**Rebecca Anthony**, Water Quality Specialist, *Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)*  
**Todd Raska**, Community Right to Know manager, *Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*  
**David Gruen**- Columbia River Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)*

## PARC Consultants Present

**William Lackey**, Statewide Vegetation Management Coordinator, *(ODOT)*  
**Fred Berman**, Director, Toxicology Information Center, *Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences (OHSU)*

## PARC Community Member Present

**Gail Langellotto**, Professor of Horticulture, *Oregon State University (OSU)*

## Other Persons Present

**Meredith Cocks**, Project Coordinator, *National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)*  
**Alan Martinez**, Occupational Health & Pesticide Exposure Program Coordinator, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*  
**Dany Lightle**, Oregonians for Food and Shelter  
**Andrea Sonnen**, Lead Pesticide Investigator, *ODA*  
**Serhan Mermer**, Director, *National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)*

## Introductions and Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with housekeeping and review of the agenda. PARC Board minutes for January were reviewed and approved.

## Agency Updates

**Jen Seamans**, Program Manager, Pesticide Exposure, Safety and Tracking Program, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

- We have a couple of things coming up in April and May having to do with environmental justice mapping.

**Alan Martinez**, Occupational Health & Pesticide Exposure Program Coordinator, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

- We participated at the GOSH conference as well as the pesticide symposium. The next project for us is to create a comic book and have reached out to some partners to develop a mini style comic book for outreach. It's still in the early phases of the project.
- Jen and I have been working to add some data sets on how we analyze pesticide data, including mental health post-exposure.
- Not too many pesticide cases are going on, but we know that they will start to pick up.

**Rebecca Anthony**, Water Quality Specialist, *Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)*

- We don't really have any updates, but are reviewing and approving plans for all the vector control districts.

**Ted Bunch**, Senior Policy Analyst/Legislative Coordinator, *Oregon OSHA (OR-OSHA)*

- I've read all 3,370 bills that have been introduced into the legislature. There are a few that are pesticide related.
  - HB 2679 proposes to make neonicotinoids a Restricted Use Pesticide
  - HB 2684 has to do with School IPM list and proposed to review that list every five years
  - HB 2809 increases pesticide registration fees
  - HB 3010 is about OSU doing pesticide education in Spanish.
  - SB 360 is about machine powered application equipment and a new license category.
  - SB 1111 proposes to change the word marijuana to cannabis in all rules
  - HB 3915 is about the ODA Low Impact List as it relates to School IPM
- From an OSHA perspective, we are following 66 of the 3,370 bills. Hopefully those that attended GOSH and the Symposiums enjoyed them both. I was only able to attend the morning of the second day.

**Fred Berman**, Director, Toxicology Information Center, *Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences (OHSU)*

- I've been mostly retired for the past 6 years but have maintained a working relationship with my previous employer, OHSU. I have decided to continue that relationship, and therefore continue serving on the PARC board.
- Changes at the federal level have dropped NPIC's funding by about 70%, so I'm no longer on the NPIC project, but am still continuing to be involved with NPIC.

**Todd Raska**, Community Right to Know manager, *Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*

- The EPA is adding PFAS and PFOS to the List of Lists. They are reviewing a lot of pesticides to see if they contain PFAS or PFOS. Those levels will be at much lower levels for reporting, if they are reportable at lower levels, they will have to be reported to us. In the past, they were not required to based on the amounts they had. About 130 chemicals will be added to the list of lists over the next few months. With this, we will have a lot more data available.
- We're visiting all the hemp/marijuana processing facilities around the state of Oregon (roughly 261 facilities).
  - We have a four-phase focus:
    - Facilities with reportable quantities,
    - Facilities that have said that they have closed,
    - Facilities that are unreported to us,
    - And facilities that are for hemp/marijuana.
  - During our travels across the state, one thing we are discovering is that facilities that claim they are processing are actually growing operations. The pesticides they are finding there are being documented and will be reported back to us next week.
- We do quarterly talks with regulators, where we present information about facilities and what has been found.
  - For PARC, we could list the pesticides that are a part of the list, so you have an idea of what we are finding
    - PARC has provided a lot of information about applicators with reportable quantities that have not been reporting.
    - In the past year, we've added in 25 -28 applicators that have not been reporting to us in the past.

**David Gruen**- Columbia River Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)*

- DEQ's Environmental Quality Commission has approved a new water quality standards are not in effect for Clean Water Act purposes yet, as EPA has not yet approved them. There are four pesticides slated in the next year or so that would then go into effect for the Clean Water Act.

**Gilbert Uribe Valdez**, PARC Board Administrator, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*

- Within the program, our bilingual staffing capacity has expanded over the last couple of months, which allows us to increase our translation capabilities, and to attend more bilingual events.
- We're working on keeping a pulse on the Endangered Species Act strategies and the new developments there
- Updating our Certification and Training plan and some of the changes that are going to be coming to applicators
  - It's a multi-year process that we are going to initiate rulemaking for in the fall and we'll be reaching out to folks about that once the session ends.
- We have several bills we are tracking, including our agency bill for increasing registration fees, as our program is heavily funded by registration fees. This bill would raise the statutory limit we have for pesticide product registrations.
- I'm also managing the fertilizer program now, which will impact my availability to be responsive to any inquiries.

### Other Group Updates

**Meredith Cocks**, Project Coordinator, *National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)*

- NPIC is experiencing some funding difficulties, as all of our money comes from EPA.
- We were originally told to expect \$2 million dollars per year, starting in 2024. They only came out with \$ 1.5 million to

start out with, which resulted in reducing some of our outputs. Year 2 they only came out with was much less than \$ 1 million. We have found some funds through the university, so we are still working it out.

- We may be suspending live hotline operation, but may change it to a callback when staffing is unavailable.
- NPIC is in the process of launching a live chat feature on the website. We're hoping to see increased engagement, with call numbers dropping.

#### PARC procedure

**Jen Seamans** – there is an increased emphasis about whether cases that result in illness or injury are in compliance with regulations. Whether there is a mechanism for sharing information efficiently. We don't have any particular ideas as to what that looks like, but we are getting that question more often, especially when referring to ODA and OSHA PARC cases

**Warren Hanson** – Every week I will go through the PARC database to see which ODA enforcement connected cases have been updated. When I see any that have been updated, I will look through the investigator's narrative to see if there is any need to send case information to any other PARC agencies that are involved in the case. That's about as efficient as I can get that.

**Jen Seamans** – We need to look and see what level of detail we may need for that. Maybe we need to take this conversation offline. We'll follow up.

**Gilbert Uribe Valdez** - this is a good example of bringing up topics like this and how we can improve our processes.

#### PARC survey results

**Warren Hanson** – Overall, here are some quick trends from the survey

- More case updates with more information, including outcomes
  - Any gaps or materials developed due to cases
- More engagement during meetings
- Presentations about pesticide risk or environmental issues
- People liked the idea of in-person meetings

#### PARC and ODA enforcement presentations

Please see the website for the Powerpoint presentations related to PARC and ODA enforcement.

#### PARC Case Discussion

**Warren Hanson** – the PARC case load has been slow, which is not unexpected. We only had 17 cases come in since the last meeting, most of which were concerns.

**PARC Case #25-0095:** Down in Jackson County in late December, a fisher that had a GPS tracking collar was found dead in a remote area. Analytical results indicated the presence of brodifacoum and bromadiolone. The necropsy was unremarkable, so that was only thing that stood out regarding the animal's death. That case is ongoing. It follows a trend of potential rodenticide exposure with wildlife species.

**Ted:** what is the secondary toxicity for the AI's?

**Warren:** both AI's have a high risk of secondary toxicity.

**Fred:** There is still a lot of illicit cannabis being grown in the forest. Is it a possibility that there is a connection with this exposure and those operations.

**Warren:** There is a possibility, but there was no information to confirm that.

**PARC Case #25-0106:** In Salem, a man was driving down a busy road and saw an applicator spraying in a landscaped area. While driving by, he reported that a mist came across multiple lanes of traffic and that he felt health effects he attributed to the application. This case was referred to ODA enforcement for potential follow up.

**Ted:** I don't have any comments about those cases, but I made a referral to PARC a month ago about an application possibly made when the temperature was about 45 degrees Fahrenheit. I don't believe I had a case number for that one.

**Warren:** Let me check. That was PARC # 25-0098. I'll follow up with you after seeing if there were any updates from Andrea.

#### Public Comment

#### Closing

The next PARC board meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2025, at 9am. If you have any suggestions for agenda items for that meeting,  
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please let Warren know.

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