

# May PARC Board Meeting Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
5/15/2025	Virtual meeting	9:00AM	10:20AM

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**, Environmental Public Health Data & Epidemiology Manager, *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)*  
**Charisse Pizarro-Osilla**, Director, *Oregon Poison Center (OPC)*  
**Gail Langellotto**, Professor, Department of Horticulture, *Oregon State University (OSU)*

## PARC Consultants Present

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

## Other Persons Present

**Christina Higby**, Citizen Advocate Liaison, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*  
**Serhan Mermer**, Director, *National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)*  
**Alan Martinez**, Occupational Health & Pesticide Exposure Program Coordinator, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*  
**Katie Murray**, Executive Director, *Oregonians for Food and Shelter (OFS)*  
**Kaci Buhl**, Associate Professor PSEP, *Oregon State University (OSU)*  
**Andrea Sonnen**, Lead Pesticide Investigator, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*

## Introductions and Meeting Minutes

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

## Agency Updates

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

- 1) We've faced a significant loss of funding. OHA is facing prospective layoffs, as our federal funding cooperative agreements had not expired at the time of the May presentation, but we had been told they

would not be renewed. Since then, some agency staff have been called back from RIF and there has been some promising information about possible reinstatement of EPH Tracking and EH Capacity funding for the upcoming year, as well as what will be the final year of Occupational Health funding, but we have not received any NOAs yet so holding our breath. All federal funding is now coming with a new clause that it can be stopped anytime mid-cycle if agency funding or priorities change. I believe there may have been some layoffs in other OHA programs that occurred June 30th.

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

- 1) We shared resources at the recent El Día Del Niño, along with other partners such as PARC and Oregon Poison Center. We also presented at the Oregon Epidemiological conference, we had a presentation that touched on pesticides and shared information with local public health authorities. It's starting to get busy with pesticide cases coming from OPC, PARC, and OERS.

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

- 1) We don't really have any updates, but we're working on updating how we process and respond to pesticide events. That's something that we'll be doing over the next few months.

**Ted Bunch**, Technical Specialist, Standards and Technical Division, *Oregon OSHA*

- 1) The only update I have is that Oregon OSHA recently updated our SOPS. Mostly we were updating member contact information, but one minor update to confidentiality of witnesses that might participate in an OR-OSHA investigation. We're going to endeavor to keep that information confidential. We introduced a legislative concept to increase confidentiality protection for those participating in an inspection versus an investigation versus a consultation and unfortunately that bill died. We got a fiscal impact request that is due by 1230 today, so I may have to jump off the meeting to fulfill that request.

**Charisse Pizarro-Osilla**, Director, *Oregon Poison Center (OPC)*

- 1) No updates from OPC at this time.

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

- 1) No updates from OHSU at this time.

**William Lackey**, Statewide Vegetation Management Coordinator, *(ODOT)*

- 1) No updates from ODOT at this time.

**Tim Moss**, Forest Practices Act Field Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)*

- 1) No big updates from ODF. Continuing to work on Spill Prevention and Response guidance that is required under the Forest Practices Act.

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

- 1) No updates from me at this time.

### Other Group Updates

**Kaci Buhl**, Associate Professor PSEP, Oregon State University (OSU)

- 1) The most notable update I have is that the Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC) was cancelled on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We're not allowed to finish working on our projects, including the update to the Core Manual, which was 95% done. We're hoping to be reinstated soon. A sister project (PREP) was reinstated recently.
- 2) WSDA, ODA, and OSU, and the Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District train the trainer course June 17-18 and do two sessions, one in English, one in Spanish. This training is interactive and will help those trainers learn new methods and make it even more effective.

**Andrea Sonnen**, Lead Pesticide Investigator, ODA

- 1) Just like others have said, we have been inundated with complaints and concerns that our investigators are following up on. Not many that are PARC related, but we have been busy nonetheless.

**Serhan Mermer**, Director, *National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)*

- 1) No updates from NPIC really, but we have been transitioning to our call back service and do our best to hotline as staffing allows and starting live chats as well.

**Christina Higby**, Citizen Advocate Liaison, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*

- 1) Just lots of questions coming in with pesticide concerns.

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

- 1) No updates from OFS, thanks!

### [OHA Overview presentation](#)

See PARC website for link to OHA overview

### [OPC Overview presentation](#)

See PARC website for link to OPC overview

### [PARC Case Discussion](#)

**Warren Hanson** – Here's a reminder to agencies to be sure to follow the established SOPS, and I appreciate the agencies that have send me updated SOPS for inclusion. If you need, I'm happy to meet with you to discuss any updates you may have to your SOPS. With some cases with multiple agencies involved, it needs to get to PARC in a timely manner. Just in case other agencies might be going on an investigation together. This ensures that everything moves smoothly to involved agencies.

The first quarter of 2025, we had 22 total cases. Unsurprisingly, this time of year is slow, but 9 of those 22 cases were incidents and 13 were concerns. In case you don't remember, a concerns may be a generic question about pesticides or no specific incident. Often, this is something along the lines of a neighbor not liking that a pesticide application is happening on a nearby property. An incident is specific to a suspected pesticide application. The main themes we saw during the first quarter of 2025 were pesticide applications nearby, or an application at an apartment complex and they had concerns about the risks from the treatment. People may call in those same situations because there are bed bugs or rats at the apartment, and they are wanting to figure out how to get rid of the pest. Environmental concerns have been popping up frequently. Maybe there is an application near a creek, and they are concerned it may be getting into the water.

One of the unusual ones that popped up so far were telephone poles. These cases involved telephone poles either being burned or tossed into a creek. As you may know, telephone poles generally treated with a wood preservative pesticide to prevent fungi or insects from destroying the wood. Slowing down the decay/destruction is a better way to phrase it.

**PARC Case #25-0108:** It was reported in Lane County that someone was burning old telephone poles and railroad ties and that the telephone poles were being thrown in a lake. This was reportedly an ongoing issue called in by a neighbor. Of course, burning treated wood is never allowed. It's been referred to DEQ for potential investigation.

**PARC Case #25-0110:** This was another incidence of a collared fisher found dead down in the Ashland. Near a previous incident of the same time. Following a necropsy, analytical results indicated the presence of bromadiolone and

diphacinone. The previous case around Christmas time indicated the presence of bromadiolone and brodifacoum.

**PARC Case # 25-0125:** This was an unusual situation in Malheur County. Some guys were out fishing at a pond near Ontario when they saw a drone that was flying nearby and felt granules land on them that believe came from the drone. Upon investigation, it was discovered that these granules were just a water-soluble granule contained *Bacillus thuringiensis* and also *Bacillus sphaericus*.

**Andrea Sonnen:** There were no associated health effects. They were treating for mosquito control and the actual label allowed for what was happening, including human contact. It was a very broad label, so there was nothing for us to take action on.

#### Public Comment

#### Closing

The next PARC board meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2025, at 9am. If you have any suggestions for agenda items for that meeting, please let Warren know.