

WQPMT Committee Meeting Notes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
02/16/2023	Virtual	1:00 pm	3:00 pm

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
Kathryn Rifenburg	Kathryn.Rifenburg@ODA.Oregon.Gov	971.600.5073

Committee Members

Kathryn Rifenburg – Oregon Department of Agriculture

Paul Measeles – Oregon Department of Agriculture

Warren Hanson – Oregon Department of Agriculture

Rebecca Anthony- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Thomas Whittington- Oregon Department of Forestry

Kaci Buhl- Oregon State University

Wade Peerman- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Lab

Colin Donald- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Gilbert Uribe- Oregon Department of Agriculture

Todd Hudson- Oregon Health Authority

Makenzie Oakes– Oregon Department of Agriculture

Introduction

- Meeting is called to order by **Kathryn Rifenburg**.
- Introductions of committee members.

Overview of 2022 Data

- **Colin Donald**, standing in for David Gruen, gave an informational presentation providing a 2022 Data Summary. There were 49 stations sampled between February 22nd- October 25th 2022 which were analyzed for ~132 pesticide ingredients. Colin shared the statewide high pesticides of concern (POC).
 - **Kathryn Rifenburg** asked Colin if he had prefaced whether sediment data is now included in the POC.
 - **Colin Donald** responded that the current data being shown did not have porewater concentration (PWC) data incorporated, but that they do have PWC into the POC lists given to the partners.
- **Kathryn Rifenburg** provided some background for members who had not attended a previous

meeting. A process was started to include PWC from the sediment data collected in the POC determinations. Essentially measuring pesticides in the interstitial spaces of the sediment.

- **Paul Measeles** asked for clarification on how the pesticides were extracted from the sediment as this can make a difference in the data.
 - **Wade Peerman** said he will follow up with the lab and report back.
- **Paul Measeles** would like to see specific actions taken when a pesticide is found above a certain threshold.
- **Gilbert Uribe** suggested exploring the possibility of a progressive response to these elevated detections in coordination with the local PSPs.
 - **Kaci Buhl** recommends using the Aquatic Life Benchmark (ALB) as a trigger for the progressive response.
 - **Paul Measeles** suggested using the acute ALB as it poses the most immediate impact to aquatic life.
- The Committee looked at active ingredient concentrations found in 2022 found at different toxicity benchmarks and how many instances they were found at those levels.
- The Committee agreed to pursue ways to responses to benchmark exceedances. It was decided that **Kaci Buhl** and **Paul Measeles** would help draft an email to the PSP local leads, asking for feedback on the idea, then the idea would be run by the PSP Advisory Group at their April meeting.

PSP Strategic Plan and AG Charter Specific and Measurable Goals

- **Kathryn Rifenburg** referencing feedback already received by the committee asked the group if specific objectives should be in the strategic plan or if they should be left out and included in the annual work plan, instead. This will allow the strategic plan to be more “stable” and the work plan to be more “adaptable”.
 - **Todd Hudson** provided feedback that he thinks it will be beneficial to break things up.
 - **Kaci Buhl** stated that granular objectives that can be achieved in a year should not be in the strategic plan but should be in the annual work plan to avoid having to revisit and update the strategic plan too often.
- **Wade Peerman** referenced a suggestion to reach out to the MS-4 permit holders and ask them to join a partnership to help with awareness campaigns, collection events, etc. Wade asked what steps have been taken to communicate that with the MS-4 coordinators at DEQ.
 - **Rebecca Anthony** stated that they are looking to coordinate when MS-4 holders are looking to renew the permit.
 - **Wade Peerman** commented that the PSP committee should be mindful of pushback in the MS-4 communities.
- Group reviewed **Kaci Buhl’s** updates to the PSP Charter.

FY 23-25 PSP Grants

- **Kathryn Rifenburg** stated that the deadline for the PSP Partner Grants was pushed back to March 1st to give the partners time to see the 2022 data and create education and outreach

around the data. Kathryn noted that she has only received one grant so far.

- **Wade Peerman** proposed a quick PSP Committee meeting to talk about the grant evaluation outcomes so that the committee is aware and can raise any concerns prior to the advisory group meeting.
- **Becky Anthony, Todd Hudson, and Warren Hanson** volunteered to review and score the PSP partner grants by March 20th.
- The WQPMT will meet on March 28th to review and rank the grants.

Agency Updates

- **Kathryn Rifenburg** stated DEQ is still moving forward with the EPA Toxics Reduction grant. There have been conversations with partners regarding what projects they would want to do if the grant funding was approved. There should be an update to whether this grant is funded or not in August.
- **Kaci Buhl** stated that she is currently working on a project with Lincoln County regarding the Siletz River. Kaci shared a link to a project she had been working on called Solve Pest Problems that is intended for lawn and garden pests as well as indoor pests. It covers pest identification and encourages users to use a nonchemical option first. People can use this app on their phone when they are making pesticide applications. There is potential to use data collected based on user location to notify applicators of local pesticide advisories and suggest using alternative products.
- **Tom Wittington** gave an update regarding the emerald ash borer. The collection of ash seeds will lead to the replanting of ash trees in the future.
- **Todd Hudson** did not have an update at this time.
- **Wade Peerman** stated that the hiring process for a new Water Quality Monitoring Manager for DEQ is closing. DEQ is finalizing the offer for employment. DEQ is doing a call for data for the integrated report that is open through the first week of April and happens every two years.
- **Colin Donald** did not have an update at this time.
- **Gilbert Uribe** gave an update regarding the new bills in Pesticides that the program is tracking relating to pesticide licensing of tribes and tribal members, outreach to farmworkers that's making its way through legislature, and rulemaking relating to pesticide applicators for the new license type. Product registration will be hiring a new Pesticide Product Registration Specialist to fill the spot of a retiree.
- **Rebecca Anthony** stated that ODFW annually reviews the pesticide use plans for the vector control districts. The plan is due by the end of February, so ODFW will be reviewing and approving the plans sometime in March.
- [Adjourn](#)
- Kathryn Rifenburg adjourns the meeting.