

Meeting Minutes - WQPMT Meeting April 25, 2019  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
700 NE Multnomah Street, Portland, Oregon  
Conference Room 1101

**Attendees:**

Kirk Cook	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Rose Kachadoorian	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Paul Measeles	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Brenda Sanchez	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Ted Bunch	Oregon Department of Agriculture – (ODA) PARC <sup>1</sup>
Kevin Masterson	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Colin Donald	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Todd Hudson	Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
Audrey Hatch	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (WEB)
Thomas Whittington	Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

**Introduction and Announcements**

Meeting minutes from the WQPMT Water Quality Pesticide Management Team) meeting on February 21, 2019 were approved. From this point forward, approved meeting minutes will be posted on the ODA Water Quality and Pesticides webpage (*This is where information regarding the WQPMT currently resides*).

Roundtable

OWEB: OWEB: The OWEB board meets quarterly, rotating around the state. The April 2019 meeting was in the Willamette Valley. The Agency’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary is this year. Events are planned at each Board meeting and will be open to the public. OWEB is looking to better track outcomes on conservation efforts, for example through Strategic Plan Priority on “Coordinated monitoring and shared learning to advance watershed restoration effectiveness”.

OHA: No update

ODA (Pesticides): In this legislative session many of the pesticide related bills have not proceeded. One exception may be a bill related to the insecticide chlorpyrifos. At least one would have ODA study the insecticide to see if further use should be curtailed. Several states are looking at this pesticide for possible restriction. Recent ruling by the courts has required that EPA decide the fate of chlorpyrifos within 90 days. The Agency is still working on the aminocyclopyrachlor (ACP) rule, a decision

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<sup>1</sup> Pesticide Analytical and Response Center

has been delayed due to a request by the registrant to consider further information. ODA is finalizing a contract with the OSU PSEP program for pesticide work in biennium 20-21.

ODA (Water Quality): The Agency is currently in the process of considering designation of new Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA's). Currently looking at reprioritization of Hydrologic Unit Code's (HUC's) within the 5-year plan.

Ted Bunch will present to the Oregon Northwest Forestry meeting on the South Yamhill

DEQ: The Bend Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (PSP) group has continued to meet with watershed groups associated with the PSP and discuss 2018 water quality findings. Several of the current PSP areas have achieved most of their goals (Hood River, Wasco). A majority of the watersheds have indicated an overall lower incidence of pesticide occurrence than in the previous year. We are working closely with all watershed to improve documentation of success. A few specifics are:

- a) Chlorpyrifos detections were down in 2018 compared to 2017
- b) In areas (like Walla Walla) following data presentation there has been a commitment made by several growers to use an alternative to chlorpyrifos for near stream applications. Increases in early season chlorpyrifos use in the past few years was likely due to a rise in occurrence of apple scale disease.
- c) Overall occurrence in water of a few herbicides of interest appeared to decrease in 2018. Pendamethalin was one herbicide that was detected notably more often than in previous years.
- d) Significant interest in beginning Strategic Planning has been demonstrated for Amazon, Clackamas, and Walla Walla PSP's. In several of these areas pre-work has begun in support of more intensive efforts beginning in FY 2020-21.

ODF: Efforts for the Agency is now shifting from legislative issue to planning for fire season. This relates to scheduling a meeting with the South Umpqua to evaluate 2017-18 data and discuss future of the study area (end the study, keep evaluating water quality data or move to a full PSP).

### Budget

Kirk Cook presented an overview of the 2019-20 budget. At this time PSP activities are within the allotted budget. There appears to be some unobligated funds that may support current PSP activities. The WQPMT discussed some possible areas where any unobligated monies could be used:

- a) To Oregon State University (OSU) for the development of specific water quality education module for pesticide applicator recertification

- b) Installation of permeameter flow monitoring devices in several of the Amazon streams (use of hand-held low meter prohibited during high flow periods)
- c) Providing “seed” money to one or more PSP’s to begin preliminary work on Strategic Plan
- d) To OSU for development of practicable alternatives to chlorpyrifos

### Waste Pesticide Collection

An event was held on April 19<sup>th</sup> in Madras. This event was one postponed from an earlier date in March due to epic snowfall in the area. To conduct this event ODA had to conduct a separate bid process due to the fact that negotiations between DEQ and Clean Harbors has not yet been completed. There has been some discussion regarding holding an event in the lower Willamette Valley this spring; however due to weather and flooding most growers and now in the field 24/7 and participation would like below. Therefore, the WQPMT will not be conducting another waste pesticide collection event until after the beginning of the new biennium. A draft schedule for collection event in the 2020-21 FY will be developed at the June 27-28 meeting of the WQPMT in Bend, OR. Until then the webpage will be modified to let the public know the status of collections.

### **Development of Online Module for License Recertification Credits**

At the February meeting of the WQPMT, initial discussions were held regarding partnering with OSU Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) to develop an online recertification module focused on water quality. Licensed pesticide applicators are required to have a specific number of approved recertification credits in order to renew their license, or they have to retest. Many of the members were surprised to learn that such a tool focusing on water quality does not currently exist. With the focus on education and outreach as a vital first step in addressing water quality concerns related to pesticides, the WQPMT discussed the possibility of having OSU develop such a tool in coordination with the WQPMT. Funding for the development of such a tool could take place immediately using some unobligated funds remaining this biennium and/or establishing a “placeholder” in future PSP budgets to develop outreach and educational materials as they are identified by the WQPMT.

Suggestions for establishment of content could include:

- a) Label language as it applies to environmental hazards (difference between mandatory and precautionary/advisory label language)
- b) Basic concept of hydrologic cycle (how water moves surface/ground)
- c) Soil properties (permeability, porosity) What make some soils riskier than others
- d) Pesticide properties (1/2 life, toxicity, etc.) again this will be at a fairly basic level

- e) WQ data evaluation- what does monitoring show?
- f) Best management practices for application (this would also cover effects of manmade structures such as impermeable surfaces, drift and runoff, proper disposal to avoid contamination, and rinsate issues)
- g) Benchmarks how are they used and what do they mean
- h) Overview of the PSP program

Based on WQPMT feedback, OSU will be contacted to evaluate the potential interest and draft scope of work for potential elements this biennium and in 2020-21.

### **Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)**

The WQPMT discussed the concept of having a diverse *WQPMT Stakeholder Advisory Group Proposal (SAG)* to provide high-level advice to the WQPMT. It was made clear to all the WPMT members that this group will not be creating policy. The WQPMT members were also reminded (during this conversation) that it does not have the authority to create policy

A thorough discussion was held regarding significant aspects of the proposal. One of the main issues related to the proposed process was how issues are brought to the WQPMT and what would be the role of the SAG. One issue that was brought forward immediately was communication. One of the purposes of the SAG would be to better the lines of communication between stakeholder and the WQPMT. One suggestion was that the WQPMT meeting minutes be posted on the website so that anyone can see the topics and issues being discussed by the WQPMT and that may eventually be brought to the SAG for input. It was felt that this would also help curb the periodic expression of concern that some stakeholders have been relaying to some member agencies.

It was agreed upon that the SAG would meet no more than twice a year and that a facilitator be used (at least for the initial few meetings). Given the level of interest in this subject the WQPMT agreed that additional information would be included into the draft *WQPMT Stakeholder Advisory Group Proposal* during the next couple of months so that the group would have a final draft proposal ready to submit to respective agency management two weeks following end of the upcoming Bend meeting. Kirk will provide no more than two revised versions of the proposal during the next month for group review and comment.

### **Pesticides of Concern**

During the past several months, DEQ and ODA have been working on a revised to process, including the matrix used to determine what is and what is not a statewide Pesticide of Concern (this is a requirement of the current ODA cooperative agreement between ODA and EPA). The current process designates several compounds that are no longer in use or that have been adequately addressed by the PSP program and are no longer detected in samples collected at the PSP monitoring

locations. This updated process has been developed with input from Washington and Idaho during the September 2018 EPA Region 10 water quality meeting in Coeur de Alene, ID .

The revised process focuses on water quality data collected only in the last three years thereby making designation of a pesticide of concern more relevant to current conditions. The previous method incorporated water quality data collected throughout the entirety of the program. Included in this update methodology is a two-tiered process. The matrix will be used on a watershed by watershed basis to assist in the prioritization process of determining which pesticide should receive the most attention from a corrective standpoint in each watershed. Those results will then be assessed by the WQPMT and if a pesticide is considered a high concern in 30% or more of the currently active PSP areas it will be designated a statewide Pesticide of Concern (or a pesticide of High Level of Concern).

This methodology is currently being utilized by several PSP areas to help in the development of their Strategic Plan. Based on this fact and given that the process has been reviewed by other Region 10 states as technically valid, the WQPMT moved to adopt this work as the new methodology from this point forward.

Under the new methodology, the 2018 statewide pesticides ratings are:

Pesticides of Concern (POC)  
/High Level of Concern

Chlorpyrifos  
Diazinon  
Dimethenamid  
Diuron  
Imidacloprid  
Oxyfluorfen

Pesticides of Interest (POI)  
/Moderate Level of Concern

2,6-dichlorobenzamide  
AMPA  
Atrazine  
Carbaryl Dimethoate  
Deisopropylatrazine  
Glyphosate  
Metsulfuron methyl  
Propiconazole  
Simazine  
Sulfometuron-methyl

The WQPMT wishes to check in with Washington and Idaho to determine where they are in regards with this methodology prior to posting this to the ODA website. In any event the modifications will be posted by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Review of USGS 2015 WQ Data**

DEQ walked through the 2015 pesticide water quality data recently received from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). A certain amount of data manipulation was necessary to get the data into from that was understandable and useable. Several key points were discussed.

- a) The USGS monitors for more pesticides than OR currently monitors. These data can provide some guidance in what new compounds should be considered to add to the current list.
- b) The USGS monitored for one year and a defined period (six months) of that year.
- c) There appear to be some differences in the type of samples that are analyzed (filtered vs unfiltered) that would make a direct comparison to OR data somewhat problematic.
- d) Differences in detection levels needs to be further examined.
- e) Some comparison between PSP and USGS data in the same watershed (or, in some cases, the same streams and monitoring sites) is useful for the WQPMT.
- f) There is a significant amount of data collected in urban areas and non-PSP watersheds that could supplement PSP data.
- g) Need further evaluation before these data could be incorporated into the PSP Database.

DEQ will be taking a closer look at the data set and if necessary circle around back to the WQPMT during the June 27-28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

The WQPMT agreed to schedule the next meeting in Bend, OR on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. This will be a 2-day meeting. Tentatively topics for discussion and action will be:

- a) Finalization of recommendation package for SAG
- b) Discussions of potential impact of HB 3058
- c) Review OSU products for Education and Outreach
- d) Develop potential waste pesticide collection schedule
- e) Discuss technical assistance grants process for Fiscal Year 2020-12
- f) Discuss drinking water implications to PSP program