

July PARC board meeting minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
7/19/2023	Virtual and In Person meeting	10:00AM	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)*
Gilbert Uribe, PARC Board Administrator, Pesticides Program Manager (*ODA*)
Jen Seamans, PARC Board Co-chair, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*
Mark Johnston, Special Operations Unit, *Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*
David Gruen- Columbia River Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)*
Rebecca Anthony- Water Quality Specialist, *Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)*
Stacy Savona, Forest Practices Field Support Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)*
Charisse Pizarro-Osilla, Director, *Oregon Poison Center (OPC)*
Mark Johnston, Special Operations Unit, *Oregon Department of State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*
Ted Bunch, Technical Specialist, Standards and Technical Division, *Oregon OSHA*

PARC Consultants Present

Fred Berman, DVM, PhD, Director, Toxicology Information Center, *Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences*

Other Persons Present

Alan Martinez, Occupational Health, Pesticide Exposure Program Coordinator (*OHA*)
Katie Murray, Executive Director, *Oregonians for Food and Shelter*
Toby Primbs, Pesticides Compliance Program Manager, (*ODA*)
Kaci Buhl, Associate Professor PSEP, Oregon State University (*OSU*)
Jessica Greene, PSEP, (*OSU*)
Brittany Jones, PSEP for Communities, (*OSU*)
Eleesa Markham, Administrative Specialist, (*OSFM*)
Anne Duncan, *Oregon Poison Center*
Tiffany Monroe, *Oregonians for Food and Shelter*

Introductions and Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. with housekeeping and review of the agenda. PARC Board minutes for May were reviewed and approved.

Agency Updates

Gilbert Uribe, PARC Board Administrator, Pesticides Program Manager (*ODA*)

- 1) EPA has been keeping the program busy with updates such as their endangered species proposal and changes to their review processes of pesticides.
- 2) There are currently three vacancies in the program that are in the process of being filled. One is currently in the interview process. The vacancy that has the closest relationship with PARC is the Worker Protection Standard Outreach position. The description for that position is currently being reviewed and revised.
- 3) SOPs are being reviewed and updated, which will be discussed in more detail later in the meeting.

Jen Seamans, PARC Board Co-chair, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*

- 1) Still in the process of becoming familiar with PARC partners and procedures. Alan will cover the OHA updates.

ROUGH DRAFT

Alan Martinez- Occupational Health, Pesticide Exposure Program coordinator (*OHA*)

- 1) The program has been busy with many investigations from different sources. There is an ongoing investigation of a multi-household exposure event involving farm workers at a vineyard.
- 2) In an upcoming meeting with Elizabeth Castillo from NPIC, there will be a discussion about better opportunities for outreach especially to the Hispanic and Indigenous populations who may not know about resources available.
- 3) The next Binational Health Week will be in Salem in October. This is a community outreach that brings in thousands of families from the valley. If any of the agencies are interested in attending, they can send an email to Alan for contact information.

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

- 1) The Poison Annual Report from 2022 is complete. This report has information such as who called the center last year, top substances admitted to hospitals, etc. A copy will be sent to Warren to be published with the PARC board meeting materials.
- 2) A yearly pesticide human exposures report with data from 2022 was also shared. This will also be viewable with the other meeting materials.

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

- 1) DEQ is in the process of updating internal written documentation for new staff.
- 2) Not related to PARC, but Gene Foster is retiring after 35 years, so the watershed section at DEQ will have a new manager.

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

- 1) Oregon OSHA is turning 50 on Monday.
- 2) Heat and smoke training is available in Workday. All state employees will be required to complete this training.
- 3) There are a couple PARC cases in progress. They're in the middle of investigation, nothing to report yet.

Stacy Savona, Forest Practices Field Support Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)*

- 1) Newer people may not be aware of the new helicopter pesticide rules that came out of Senate Bill 1602. They require prior notice for herbicide applications by helicopter and some other requirements about completion reporting. Enforcement action is still occurring frequently in relation to these rules. A large number of cases have been related to completion reporting. Most operators give notice that they are going to do the operation, but they haven't been completing correctly on the computer within time limit. ODF is working on getting everybody in the habit of doing this properly.

Mark Johnston, Special Operations Unit, *Oregon Department of State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*

- 1) Oregon Department of State Fire Marshal officially became its own agency on July 1, 2023.
- 2) The department is very busy with the current fire season starting to kick up.

Fred Berman, PhD, Director, Toxicology Information Center, *Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences*

- 1) There is a possible collaborative effort between NPIC and Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences in relation to a grant through EPA. Kaci Buhl will provide more background information.

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

- 1) EPA published the funding announcement for \$10 million, which is double last time. The new deliverables they are asking for are expanding phone hours by 50%, and they want the recipient to create an online portal for human pesticide incident reporting across the nation. It's to be determined what will be done with that data and who will have access to it. All of the activities will be performed through an environmental justice lens, aiming to serve audiences who bear a disproportionate amount of pesticide risk compared to the general population. EPA listed three specific audiences to target: agricultural workers, workers in the sanitation or hospitality industry, and audiences in low-income, multi-family housing that face the challenges of long-term management for bed bugs and other pests of structural and residential concern. They will announce who has been awarded the grant in January.

[PARC document updates](#)

Gilbert Uribe discussed that as part the process of becoming familiar with the protocol and inner workings of PARC, he reviewed the Response to Pesticide Incidents document that is available online. He found that there is a lot of information that warrants reviewing, editing, and updating the document. There are also some associated SOPs that are out of date. Newer staff might not know who to call when an incident is encountered, and updating the documents to provide that knowledge will help with that. For the next meeting, he proposed having a review of the document as part of the agenda. Gilbert reemphasized the importance of coordination and communication among the agencies to effectively and efficiently respond to the cases that are encountered. The work between agencies overlaps, but there may be different statutory or regulatory mandates that have a different focus. Finding where that difference is can help agencies work together more efficiently and having conversations to better understand the different

programs will benefit all.

Jen Seamans commented that so much is changing in statute on a yearly basis, that it would be beneficial to also include in the SOP some description of the parameters for which cases are addressed by each participating partner.

Toby Primbs added that the enforcement program participates in a number of conversations with partner agencies inside and outside of PARC. As they get new staff, he emphasizes and encourages over-communicating with Warren. This helps in the learning process and ensures the program is coordinating and getting information to PARC.

Pesticide storage, transport, and disposal fact sheets

Warren Hanson shared the finished fact sheets related to the storage, transport, and disposal of pesticides on screen. He stated that these were developed with the help of PARC agencies and using extension articles. It was noted that OPC is not referenced as a contact on all the fact sheets, and Warren said he would notify the publication specialist to make that adjustment. After finalization, the fact sheets will be sent out to the board for distribution, and they will also be available on PARC website.

PARC Case Discussion

Warren Hanson shared the information from the following PARC cases:

PARC Case #24-0003: ODA received a complaint from Brian with Sauvie Island Growers. He stated that he and his crew felt tingling lips and smelled a chemical smell in the morning of June 29th upon arriving to work. He sent his crew home that morning. Brian reported that he thinks that the spray came from Sauvie Island Farms. The applicator confirmed that following products were applied to a wheat field:

Harmony Extra SG: EPA Registration Number 279-9602

Colt AS: EPA Registration Number 34704-1019

Tombstone: EPA Registration Number 34704-912

Trivapro: EPA Registration Number 100-1613

Weather Gard as the drift control agent

Brian is concerned about the products sprayed, pesticides being sprayed by water ways, the possible contamination to his organic crops, and the ongoing issue of the neighbor not notifying them before he sprays.

PARC Case #24-0005: This complaint came in from the manager of a childcare center out of Nyssa, Oregon. He reported potential exposure to 3 workers outside their facility during an insecticide/fungicide application by plane nearby. The employees were outside at the time setting up toys for the children and reported a strong odor and tightness of chest. It was reported that none of the employees sought medical attention and did report to work the following day. Analytical results indicate the presence of tolfenpyrad, spirotetramat, spinetoram, and mancozeb on the playground where the workers were.

PARC Case #24-0009: Caller reported the overnight hospitalization of an employee due to pesticide exposure. The employee reported that while working on a cleaning crew near a camp, that they were exposed to Fyfanon insecticide (containing malathion) via an airplane spraying a nearby orchard. The employee experienced severe coughing and trouble breathing and was transported to the hospital. She was later transferred to a hospital in Portland for further observation.

Public Comment

Katie Murray commented that the second OFS Annual Conference will be occurring on November 1, 2023, at the Salem Convention Center. She stated that this is a great opportunity to engage with the regulated community about pesticides, fertilizer, stewardship, etc. She suggested checking out the website or contacting her for more information.

Katie added that the Environmental Justice Council, which was formalized last year, initiated the development of a mapping tool which is relevant to some of the earlier discussion regarding identifying vulnerable communities based on a variety of factors. She wanted to share that there is an overall effort to engage in this type of work and wanted to make sure this group aware that work is underway.

Kaci Buhl shared that providing exam preparation training in Spanish has been a huge need, so she's been working with Gilbert Uribe and others to set up a collaboration with Washington State Department of Agriculture. WSDA has a team of 11 people who provide this type of training all around their state. In a collaboration with WSDA, the Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District and the Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association, they are going to deliver two training events in Spanish. One will be associated with Christmas trees in the Clackamas area and the other associated with orchards in the Hood River area.

Kaci shared that, in relation to this, PRIA 5 passed at the end of 2022. It requires pesticide registrants to start making available certain parts of the pesticide label in Spanish. This will roll out over the course the next 8 years. Restricted Use Pesticides used in the agricultural space will be required to be translated first. She also shared that there are teams working at the national level to translate the national core manual to Spanish as it's being updated. Kaci noted that there are teams working at the state level to translate the Oregon Core Addendum as well and access to training materials in Spanish is going to expand greatly in the next year or two.

Toby Primbs commented that the enforcement program has also been going through their outreach materials and translating them into Spanish. The report of loss form, complaint form, and investigation and enforcement brochure are now available in Spanish online.

Closing

The next PARC board meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2023, at 9am. If you have any suggestions for agenda items for that meeting, please let Warren know.