



Willamette River Toxics Reduction Partnership

Remote Meeting

November 18, 2020

1:30pm – 4:00pm



Attendees:

- Andrea Matzke, Oregon DEQ
- Andrew Swanson, Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies / Clackamas County Water Environment Services
- Bruce Newton, Johnson Creek Watershed Council
- Caleb Shaffer, EPA R10
- Cami Grandinetti, EPA R10
- Carl Grimm, METRO Regional Government
- Carl Merkle, Umatilla Tribe
- Cathy Kellen, Columbia Slough Watershed Council
- Daniel Brown, OR DEQ
- Hunter Young, EPA R10
- Jack Halsey, Coordinator, Oswego Lake Watershed Council
- Jamie Pang, Oregon Environmental Council
- Jay K Walters, OR Department of Forestry
- Jennifer Morace, USGS
- Jim Mckenna, OR Governor Brown's Office
- Kaitlin Lovell, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
- Keri Handaly, City of Gresham/Clean Rivers Coalition
- Kevin Masterson, OR DEQ
- Kevin Scribner, Salmon Safe
- Lara Christensen, Oak Lodge Water Services District/Clean Rivers Collation
- Laura Shira, Yakama Nation
- Mary Lou Soscia, EPA R10
- Michael Karnosh, Grand Ronde Tribe
- Michael Lee, OR DEQ
- Nicole Taylor, EPA R10
- Roy Iwai, Multnomah County Health Department/Clean Rivers Coalition
- Sarah Greenfield, OR DEQ
- Thomas Whittington, OR Department of Forestry
- Torey Wakeland, Grand Ronde Tribe

The meeting summary, and presentations can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/willamette-watershed-toxics-reduction-partnership>

Information on the Willamette Toxics Reduction Partnership and materials from past meetings can be found there as well.

Meeting Summary

Kevin and Mary Lou welcomed all to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.

Round table updates:

- Kevin Scribner: Salmon Safe held a webinar in early Nov. Links in are in the Teams chat box
- Carl Grimm, METRO Regional Gov of Portland Area: Working on improving OR packaging legislation, microplastics, etc.
- Michael Karnosh, Grand Ronde Tribe: working on Brownfields permits for property on Blue Heron Papermill
- Cami Grandinetti, EPA is currently working on finalizing the Willamette River TMDL.

- Daniel Brown, OR DEQ: Links to the newly released Willamette Basin Toxics Monitoring Summary and infographic can be found on DEQ's Toxic Monitoring Program webpage: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Pages/WQ-Monitoring-Statewide.aspx>
- Cathy Kellen, Columbia Slough Watershed Council: PFAS monitoring being done in watershed with Air National Guard sites
- Kevin Masterson, OR DEQ
 - Update: Oregon Pesticide Stewardship Partnership Biennial Report: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Documents/PSPBienniumReport.pdf>
 - Biennial Report Fact Sheet: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Documents/PSPOverviewFS.pdf>
- Jennifer Morace, USGS
 - NWQA program is ending after 30 years. If you would like to offer stakeholder input about what water quality data you would like USGS to continue to collect, please reach out to Jennifer Morace (jlmorace@usgs.gov). Particularly this is focused on the sunseting of the long-term Willamette Basin NAWQA sites <https://nrtwq.usgs.gov/nwqn/#/>
 - Link to the pharmaceuticals report that Kevin mentioned in the Tualatin basin - Reconnaissance of Pharmaceutical Chemicals in Urban Streams of the Tualatin River Basin, Oregon, 2002 <https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2009/5119/pdf/sir20095119.pdf>
 - Link to the Columbia River Inputs: WWTP effluent and stormwater runoff monitoring report - Reconnaissance of Contaminants in Selected Wastewater-Treatment-Plant Effluent and Stormwater Runoff Entering the Columbia River, Columbia River Basin, Washington and Oregon, 2008–10 <https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2012/5068/pdf/sir20125068.pdf>

2019 OR Drug Take Back Program Legislation Implementation - Michael Lee, OR DEQ

- Materials Management Program in Oregon uses a 2050 Vision and Framework plan
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): Primary responsibility for managing product lifecycle is on producers instead of consumers. The law and government agencies set standards and the producers have flexibility to develop and implement services.
- Impacts of unwanted drugs can devastate human health and the environment. Drug take back program can reduce these hazards.
- Program operators set up drop-off sites or mail-back options so people can conveniently and safely dispose of their drugs for free. They also work towards public awareness through a website, toll-free number, and a survey.
- Link to the Drug Take-Back Program webpage: it has links to the fact sheet and guide under "Resources." <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/Hazards-and-Cleanup/hw/Pages/drugtakeback.aspx>

Columbia River Basin Restoration Grant Program – Mary Lou Soccia, EPA R10

- 14 grants awarded on Sept 20, 2020, throughout the Basin focused on green infrastructure, pollution prevention, agricultural best practices, monitoring and community and public education and outreach.
- Columbia River Basin Restoration Program announcement webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-restoration-funding-assistance-program#awards>
- For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver>

“Pesticide Reduction Outreach Campaign”, recently awarded Columbia River Basin Restoration Program grant – Roy Iwai, Multnomah County/Clean Rivers Coalition

- Clean Rivers Coalition is a broad coalition of 60+ organizations building a bridge between clean water and healthy communities for the benefit to all.
- Public Outreach Campaign to give voice to our water in a way that is inclusive and can reach people “where they are.” The goal is to reduce toxics in our rivers through behavior change.

- New campaign name: Follow the Water – Connect the Drops
- CRC is in phase 4 – Implementation of the campaign
- What does the EPA Grant fund?
 - Community Based Social Marketing Training
 - Columbia River toxics videos
 - Latinx workshop and focus groups
 - Pesticide “how to” videos
 - Coordinated action from partners
 - Digital ad buys
- Next steps
 - Clean Rivers Coalition Virtual Forum on December 4th, 1-3:30pm. [Link to register](#)
 - Community Based Social Marketing Training on January 6-11th, 2021

2020 OR Legislation on Forest Herbicide Applications and the Forest Practices Act – Jay Walters and Thomas Whittington, OR Dept of Forestry (ODF)

- Senate Bill 1602 passed by Oregon Legislative Assembly in a Special Session.
- This Senate Bill provides the following stream and water protections in actively managed forest areas:
 - Wider harvest buffers on Salmon, Steelhead, and Bull trout streams.
 - Wider Helicopter spray buffers for streams, water spray areas (i.e. community gardens), and schools and dwellings. These will take effect statewide on January 1st, 2021.
- Senate Bill 1602 Directed the Oregon Department of Forestry to facilitate communication between neighbors/water users and helicopter pesticide applicators. Neighbors need to register with ODF to ensure they get notifications about sprays in their area.

Set Next Meeting and Ideas for Topics

- Ask Kirk Shimeall with Cascade Pacific RC&D to present on their Columbia River Basin Restoration Program grant, “Upper Willamette Urban Waters Partnership Development and Program Expansion”
- Roy and Keri could give another update with their work on, “Pesticide Reduction Outreach Campaign”
- Michael Karnosh from Grand Ronde Tribe report on status of Blue Heron papermill site clean up
- Perhaps host a future meeting on collaboration with other agencies and states on PFAS pollution prevention initiatives.