

# PPDC Pollinator Protection Plan Metrics WG - Meeting Minutes

10/12/2016

## Attendees:

(in person) Mike Goodis, Lead; Marietta Echeverria, Co-Lead; Tom Moriarity; Dee Colby (phone) Tom Van Arsdall, Ray Brinkmeyer, Mary Clock-Rust, Michele Colopy, Steven Coy, Richard Crespin, Jim Fredericks, Nichelle Harriot, Stephanie Bins (for Aaron Hobbs), Dudley Hoskins, Jeanette Klochpin, Jim Lyons, Don Parker, Peg Perreault, Caydee Savinelli, Melissa Scherr, Julie Shapiro, Tom Steeger, Tim Tucker, Andy Whittington

## Agenda (attached)

### Introduction - Mike Goodis

There are 21 members on the workgroup representing a wide range of stakeholders including: beekeepers, growers, States, tribes, industry, NGOs, and consultants.

The expectation for the workgroup is to develop: 1) recommendations for EPA to use in evaluating the effectiveness of pollinator protection plans at a national level; a means to monitor how well they are doing overall, and 2) a strategy to communicate that effectiveness to the public. We will refer to 'public' in a broad definition. The Agency views the outcomes of this work as a long term effort to look at trends versus a specific target.

The workgroup has a 1 year term from today's date (10/12/2016 – 10/12/2017).

Meeting minutes will be circulated to the group.

**Question:** How do decisions get made in this group?

**Answer:** Ideally I would like to reach a consensus among the group for what would make sense for the Agency in measuring the overall effectiveness of pollinator protections plans (Mike).

**Question:** Are there current SOPs in place for other PPDC workgroups that the Agency has followed?

**Answer:** No. Our group meets everything it needs to under FACA (Dea Zimmerman).

**Question:** Is there a concern that these voluntary plans (i.e., MP3) will be discouraged by the outcomes and expectations stemming from this group?

**Answer:** The hope is that we can convey to the States and public that this work is mutually beneficial. We are not mandating plans; we are communicating that this is a problem that needs to be addressed on a local level; it is voluntary. Having the States take the lead is the best approach since plans and stages of progress for each plan are varied by state. We want to encourage some sort of evaluation on their level, as well (Mike).

### Ground Rules (attached) – Marietta

**Question:** Do we want to open this meeting to broader group in public (Marietta)?

Workgroups under FACA have different rules than full PPDC; therefore, we don't need to be open to public comment at this point. There will be a public process at some point with opportunities for public input.

**Discussion:**

- 1) We could make more headway with a smaller group. It was suggested that allowing others to listen in may limit behavior of participants and the openness of the discussion. We can post meeting minutes on the PPDC website if don't want others listening.
- 2) Perhaps allow people to listen but not participate.
- 3) There is also the option of limiting certain meetings and have others be open.

**Follow Up:** Members should comment on the Ground Rule document via email. Send emails to [Colby.deanna@epa.gov](mailto:Colby.deanna@epa.gov). We will revise the document and send it to the group for comment.

**Background on Agency and Pollinator Plans – Mike****Q & A**

**Question:** In looking at a variety of State MP3s and various levels of review, how much of that is factored into our group

**Answers:** The charge of group is not to conduct the evaluation, but to make recommendation on how EPA should evaluate the plans overall, (Marietta). This is a temporal perspective of where States are now, but there are other measures to consider once states proceed beyond the developmental phase and are in a more steady state (Mike).

**Question:** Will EPA pick up the cost of these measurements on States?

**Answer:** We do not think States would have to pick up cost, rather the EPA would be open to consider what works as far as cost and implementation (Mike).

Due to time we did not discuss Operating Principles and Logistics.

**Next meeting is November 1, 2016 from 1 – 4 p.m.** with an expanded agenda and in person for those who can attend (conference line for others) since this will be the day before the PPDC meeting. We will circulate a draft agenda and get feedback from group. It was suggested that we may want a report from SFIREG and AAPCO about some of their guidance measures.

**FOLLOW UP – all members:**

1. **All:** Provide input on how often the group should meet.
2. **All:** Ground Rule input. Send comments to Dee Colby at [Colby.deanna@epa.gov](mailto:Colby.deanna@epa.gov).
3. **All:** Do you want to allow non-members to listen in during meetings? Send comments to [Colby.deanna@epa.gov](mailto:Colby.deanna@epa.gov)
4. **All:** Suggestions for topics of discussion for the November 1 meeting. Send suggestions to [Colby.deanna@epa.gov](mailto:Colby.deanna@epa.gov)
5. **Agency:** Circulate proposed agenda for November 1 meeting.

## Pollinator Protection Plans Metrics PPDC Workgroup

1<sup>st</sup> teleconference, 10/12<sup>th</sup> 1:00 - 2:30 pm

1-866-299-3188; 703-305-8578

Adobe connect: <http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/r8e0gaea1u9/>

The objective of the teleconference is to introduce workgroup members, to review the charge and goals for the workgroup, to review relevant background materials, to establish ground rules and operating principles for the group, to answer questions and plan for upcoming meetings.

### **Agenda:**

#### **Welcome and Introductions (20 mins)**

*Workgroup members will introduce themselves and describe their interest, perspective and expertise that they bring to the workgroup with respect to pollinator protection plans and/or evaluation and measurement*

#### **Charge and Goals for the Workgroup (10 mins)**

*Mike Goodis, Workgroup Chair, will review the charge to the workgroup, describe goals for the workgroup and discuss EPA's objectives.*

#### **Ground rules (15 mins)**

*The group will discuss and come to agreement on ground rules that will guide the way the group interacts going forward. (Marietta)*

#### **Background Presentation and Materials (15 mins)**

*EPA staff will give a background presentation describing the evolution of state and tribal pollinator protection plans, the national strategy to promote the health of honey bees and other pollinators, partnership and activities with USDA, American Association of Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO), State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG), the Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC), National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and the Honey Bee Health Coalition (HBHC). (Mike and Marietta)*

#### **Q & A, Other discussion (15 mins)**

*An opportunity to ask clarifying questions to EPA and other workgroup members and to bring up other discussion topics. (Mike)*

#### **Operating principles and logistics going forward (10 mins)**

*The group will discuss and come to agreement on future operating principles and logistics. How often do we want to meet? What is the best mode of communication? (Marietta)*

#### **Meeting Recap and Next Steps (5 mins)**

*Review any action items and next steps. (Mike)*