PHTF Meeting Minutes

7/21/21

Attendees: Katie Buckley, Tim Stein, Tim Hiatt, Billy Olesen, Taylor Cotten, Jeff Dreier, Laura Lavine, Ed Lisowski, Paul Hosticka, Michael O’Loughlin, David Jennings, Erin Sullivan, Rubai Aurora, Sarina Jepsen, Elizabeth Murray

We will plan on having an in person meeting on October 1 at the WSU Bee Lab in Othello. We also need another meeting in early September. Katie will send a Doodle poll for that.

Going down the bill, in order:

2.7 This will be a multi-pronged plan. The pesticide subcommittee will put this together. No funding needed currently.

3.2 Laura is in the process of hiring this position. It will likely take a year before the position is filled.

Annual Report

Katie briefly discussed plans for the annual pollinator report. It will include (but is not limited to) recommendation project updates, bee kill incidents, research priorities, and new recommendations. It will also include critical impacts and needed best management practices.

1.6 We’re still waiting. The fed’s timeline for listing Western bumble bee under the Endangered Species Act will be in 2023.

2.6 Same WSU position Laura is hiring. So one year out.

5.7 & 5.8 Not funded. Varroa research will be top research priority.

5.9 Not funded.

5.1 Chris Looney and Elizabeth will meet next week and get back to Katie.

5.2 Katie will be requesting funds for a full time taxonomist and genetic testing ($50,000).

1.9 Katie will ask Mary.

2.3 Current programs are good and do not require more funding.

2.4 Done!

2.5 No funding issues.

3.7 Got funding for printing, and have a plan.

4.4 The survey is scheduled, MP and P subcommittees are helping out. No more funding is needed.

3.4 No additional funding needed.

3.8 & 3.9 Ongoing by Katie. No funding needed.

4.2 No funding needed.
1.7 No funding needed.

2.1, 2.2, 2.8, 5.6 PMD knows what they are supposed to do, and has the funding needed to do it.

4.1 Katie will ask Nursery Inspection if bumble bee manufacturers have been notified of the law change.

3.1, 3.10, 5.4 The position has been funded. Further funding needs will need to be assessed by the new person in a year.

1.2, 3.6 No funding needed, Katie is working on it.

1.3, 5.5 Got lump funding, don’t need additional funding, WDFW is working on it.

1.8 Allison is not present, no funding needed.

1.1 Allison still not present, they have a plan. May require funding.

Not part of bill specifically

1.5 Did not get funding – may be a long term goal of the PHTF. Jeff will keep us updated.

3.3 Not funded, but resources will go on the website.

Other discussion

The taxonomist for the WA Bee Atlas needs to be hired at as high a level as possible. Kate Walker wants to be on this year’s permit too.

Katie will run a small group meeting for 5.1. Katie will also send out Doodle polls for next meetings.