PHTF Meeting Minutes

10/1/21

Attendees: Katie Buckley, Tim Stein, Alison Halpern, Tim Stapleton, Taylor Cotton, Brighid O’Keane, Chris Senske, Bob Walters, Colleen Miko, Ed Lisowski, Tim Hiatt, Jennifer Short, Adeline Rang, Heather Hanson, Michael O’Loughlin, Ethan Crowder, Billy Olesen, David Jennings, Brandon Hopkins, Elizabeth Murray, Wendy Sue Wheeler

Begin at 10:30am

Roll Call and Updates

- Western bumble bee will be added as a state listing next week.
- Billy is seeing lots of wasp calls.
- Tim’s bees are going crazy with end of season foraging.
- OSU has started classes, and Adie is having a great time.
- FieldWatch started mapping urban beehives in Washington D.C.
- Clark PUD just started it’s first pollinator garden.
- Penalty matrix rule meetings have started, looking at 2022 implementation.
- The site has now been selected for the capitol campus pollinator garden. They are now talking funding, plants, and signage.
- Alison has submitted a supplementary fiscal note for the Sustainable Farms and Fields Program.
- Heather is following the WDA rule updates.
- Ethan is working on PMPs, and reducing mosquito control impacts on pollinators.
- The WSU position has an official search committee. (Tim Hiatt and Wendy Sue Wheeler are on it.)

Section 2:

2.7 Will be worked on in the MP group. Waiting on survey results from 4.4. Gets edits on the beekeeping survey to Katie by next Wednesday.

Section 3 (WSDA Pollinator Program):

3.2 Waiting for WSU position to be filled. Brandon thinks process may be mostly complete by February?

2b Critical impacts, needed BMPs, and research priorities – Katie will be organizing. Wildfires should be added to the list. Shrub-steppe conversion to solar farms should also be added. Development impacts and habitat loss of all sorts should be added as well.

5.1 Katie will set up a meeting with Chris Looney and Elizabeth to get this hammered out next week.

5.2 Katie will edit according to supplementary fiscal note.

2d Janet Gorrel is working on similar shrub-steppe wildlife stuff. Katie will get in touch. Billy suggested including plants from the Beautify seed mixes in the capitol pollinator garden. Katie included the noxious weeds pollinator plant seed mix in the Habitat meeting minutes.
3.7 Katie gave an update on the nursery meeting (see those meeting minutes.) Colleen suggested another meeting later on to try to get more nurseries engaged. Katie will also send out the monarch media package.

Section 4 (WSDA Pesticide Management Division):

The neonic report is being worked on, but they are having some staffing shortages. They have started the penalty matrix process (Katie complemented the presentation at one of the meetings.) Katie will move the research stuff to research priorities.

Section 5 (WSDA):

Katie will work on this and talk to Cindy Cooper about it.

Section 6 (WSU):

Brandon, Wendy, and Katie will work on updating this section. In regards to night spraying for pollinator safety, remember the moths! If Brandon (or other WSU researchers) identify research hurdles in this state, maybe those need to be made into a formal recommendation. (So please complain Brandon!)

Section 7:

The plant forage list is getting worked on next week.

Section 8 (WDFW):

Taylor will have his people give a presentation on riparian restoration stuff in the Habitat subcommittee. Heather, Ed, and Alison H. are all interested in attending that meeting.

Section 9 (SFFGP):

Alison has submitted a $2 million supplementary fiscal note for this. (Now we wait.)

Section 10 (Small grants program):

No updates. May want to do a biennial request or formal recommendation next year. Alison will work on collecting information on specific needs and concrete numbers.

3.3 Could there be a school garden + capitol campus garden tie-in? Colleen wants to know if they will do guided school tours for more exposure for example. Taylor said the goal was to find a spot to have events in for better exposure. They don’t have specific funding/maintenance yet though. Maybe school kids could have a project where they start seed packets in the fall, then the bloom in the spring?

WDFW has a person to work on website content. Katie is excited for the help.

Katie will schedule the November meeting. We want to have everything mostly done by then. Katie will see if any legislators would like to join us.