

Agricultural Burning Practices & Research Task Force #101 Meeting Summary

DATE: June 7, 2017

LOCATION: Department of Ecology Eastern Regional Office, Spokane WA.

<u>Members Present</u>		<u>Representing</u>
Karen Wood-Chair	Air Quality Program	Department of Ecology
Larry Cochran	Washington Assoc. of Conservation Districts	Conservation Districts
Robin Priddy (Alternate for Julie Oliver)	Benton Clean Air Agency	Eastern Washington Local Air Authorities
Jeffrey Wilmoth (Alternate for Troy Henderson)	Whitman County Public Health Department	Public Health
Dan McCarthy	Okanogan Horticultural Association	Agricultural Community
Charles Golob (Alternate for Bill Johnston)	Washington State University	Academia, (Crop & Soil)
Mike Buckley	Alfalfa Seed Industry	Agricultural Community
<u>Members Absent</u>		
Michael Bush	WSU Extension	Academia, (Tree Fruit)
Don Potts	WA. Dept of Agriculture	WA. Dept. of Agriculture
Jay Penner	Washington Association of Wheat Growers	Agricultural Community

Introductions, Announcements

The 101st Agricultural Burning Practices and Research Task Force (Task Force) meeting was held on June 7th, 2017 at the Department of Ecology's Eastern Regional Office in Spokane, Washington. The Task Force meeting began with the introduction of Task Force members and guests. Chair Karen Wood then also had the sad duty to announce that Don Potts, a member of the Agricultural Burn Task Force, died in May. Ecology will seek to find a representative to represent the Washington Department of Agriculture on the Task Force.

The June meeting of the Task Force is normally reserved for hearing research project proposals. The Task Force recommends which projects they would like to fund and the amount of funding they would like to provide. Lastly, the Task Force considers revising, amending, and approving the Best Management Practices, (BMP's) for the upcoming year.

Research Presentations

The Task Force received a progress report from one research project.

Management of Fresh Wheat Residue for Irrigated Winter Canola Production

The Task Force also heard presentations from researchers with proposals to conduct research responding to Ecology's Request for Research Proposals of up to \$140,000 in research proposals

The presentations were, in order:

1. *Assessing Policy Alternatives for Agricultural Burning in the State of Washington*
2. *Sustainable Concrete using Agriculture Wastes: Eliminating Burning Emissions*

Presentations and Reports are available online at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research.htm>

Task Force Recommendation

The Task Force recommended not funding either of the research proposals above.

BMP's

One of the required activities at the June meeting of the Agricultural Burning Task Force is either to modify or reconfirm the existing Best Management Practices (BMP's), and to institute new BMP's.

There were several grammatical and housekeeping changes made to each BMP. These changes were accepted by the Task Force unanimously. The BMP's are available at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/BMPAginfo.htm>

Public Comment

Representatives of the State of Idaho Dept of Environmental Quality and of the Nez Perce Tribe were asked by Chair Karen Wood about news from their agricultural burning programs. The Nez Perce just recently started charging for agricultural burn permits, at a rate of \$3.75 per acre, the same as Washington.

Next Meeting

The next meeting (Meeting #102) of the Agricultural Burning Practices and Research Task Force will be on Tuesday, November 1st, 2017, from 10am to 4pm in Spokane, Washington.