

Agricultural Burning Practices & Research Task Force #109 Meeting Summary

DATE: June 2, 2021

LOCATION: Virtual Meeting held on Skype

<u>Members Present</u>		<u>Representing</u>
David Knight-Chair	Air Quality Program	Department of Ecology
Larry Cochran	Washington Assoc. of Conservation Districts	Conservation Districts
Rob Rodger	Benton Clean Air Agency	Eastern Washington Local Air Authorities
Chris Skidmore	Whitman County Public Health Department	Public Health
Jay Penner	Washington Association of Wheat Growers	Agricultural Community
Karen Lewis	WSU Extension	Academia, (Tree Fruit)
Scott Steinbacher	WA. Dept of Agriculture	WA. Dept. of Agriculture
Allison Buckley (Attending for Mike Buckley)	Alfalfa Seed Industry	Agricultural Community
<u>Members Absent</u>		
Bill Johnston	WSU Crop and Soil Science	Academia
Dan McCarthy	Okanogan Horticultural Association	Agricultural Community
Mike Buckley	Alfalfa Seed Industry	Agricultural Community

Introductions, Announcements

The 109th Agricultural Burning Practices and Research Task Force (Task Force) meeting was held on June 2nd, 2021 via Skype online due to limitations on travel and meeting face-to face caused by the COVID-19 virus situation. The Task Force meeting began with the introduction of Task Force members and guests. Chair Dave Knight introduced two new members of the TaskForce, Rob Rodger, and Chris Skidmore.

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 heard a presentation from researchers with a proposal to conduct research responding to Ecology's Request for Research Proposals of up to \$90,000 in research proposals

The presentation was:

Agricultural Industrial Symbiosis: An Applied Research Project as an Alternate Approach to Reduce/Eliminate Emissions from Agricultural Burning

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 no changes to the BMPs this year, other than updating the references to the Revised Code of Washington, which had been renumbered recently. 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>

Washington Ag Burn Program News and Updates

Ecology's Daniel Matsche gave a review of the Spring burn season, showing that burning amounts were up from the spring of last year, in general.

Task Force Research Funding Recommendation

The Task Force appointed members Jay Penner and Karen Lewis to get more information from the cooperators in the research project and report back in a timely fashion, so that a decision about funding the research project could be made at a future meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting (Meeting #110) of the Agricultural Burning Practices and Research Task Force will be on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, from 10am to 11am via Skype.