

Bay Area Clean Water Agencies (Stephanie Hughes)

Thank you for your introductory SPM advisory meeting. As a representative for urban stakeholders, I appreciated listening in.

Comment #1: Recommend separate partner and incentive program lists for urban stakeholders

Partners and incentive programs for urban stakeholders look very different than agriculture, be it industrial/commercial (such as facility managers) or residential (point-of-purchase outreach). Consider developing a parallel but separate partner list and grant/incentive program list. Partners could include the Structural Pest Review Board, as suggested by Andrew Sutherland. Other key stakeholders could include those that provide CE units to key stakeholders, such as state and local veterinary associations. Incentive programs could include Dr. Farrar's examples of IPM inclusion in LEED building certification and Green Shield for IPM practitioners. I also liked his idea of a co-benefit for energy upgrade tax incentives (in which a new door sweep is both energy efficient and keeps pests out).

Comment #2: Add DTSC, particularly their Safer Consumer Products (SCP) Program, to your list of external state partners

Biocides (antimicrobials) are commonly added into consumer products, often to protect people using the products from the unwanted growth of viruses, fungi, bacteria, or other microorganisms. Examples include preservatives in eye drops, cosmetics and other personal care products. Because many biocide-containing products do not make a pesticidal claim on the label, they are not regulated by DPR. Meanwhile, DTSC's SCP Program already includes many of these biocides on their Candidate Chemical List (such as quaternary ammonium compounds, QACs). Therefore, BACWA recommends that DPR include DTSC and their SCP Program in your state partner list.

Comment #3: Add Cal-OSHA to your list of external state partners

Agricultural workers face occupational pesticide exposure, as do urban workers such as janitors and hospital staff exposed to biocides or veterinarians and dog groomers exposed to on-pet flea treatments. Therefore, BACWA recommends that DPR include Cal-OSHA in your state partner list to build SPM knowledge, enhance data collection (with respect to human health risks), and coordinate state-level leadership.

Comment #4: Add the Water Board to your list of external state partners

The State Water Board issues discharge permits to agencies managing urban stormwater and wastewater treatment facilities, both of which are conduits of upstream urban pesticide use. These discharge permits (known as NPDES permits) may include IPM and SPM activities. Therefore, BACWA recommends that DPR include the Water Board in your state partner list to build SPM knowledge, enhance data collection (with respect to aquatic toxicity risks), and coordinate state-level leadership.

Comment #5: Possible urban SPM success story

Committee members commented that urban examples would help ease the pressure (and fear) from the agricultural community regarding SPM. We might have one regarding flea/tick treatments. Fipronil and imidacloprid are observed in treated wastewater discharged to water bodies, often at concentrations greater than aquatic life benchmarks. Scientists (including those at DPR's SWPP) have tied that to on-pet flea treatments. As a pilot project, the City of Palo Alto reached out to the contractor operating their city animal shelter to ask them to (1) replace fipronil for on-pet flea control and (2) include educational flyers in adoption baggies. While it took some time, this was successful. Palo Alto has since shared their outreach materials with other municipalities interested in coordinating with their municipal animal shelters. Reach out if you would like us to prepare a more detailed success story (with links) to share.