

## Agricultural Burning Practices & Research Task Force #86 Meeting Summary

DATE: June 12, 2012

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

<b><u>Members Present</u></b>		<b><u>Representing</u></b>
Karen Wood-Chair	Air Quality Program	Department of Ecology
Larry Cochran	Grower	Conservation Districts
Jay Penner	Washington Association of Wheat Growers	Agricultural Community
Michael Ingham	Alfalfa Seed Industry	Agricultural Community
Michael Bush	WSU Extension	Academia, (Tree Fruit)
Sverre Vedal	University Of Washington	Public Health
Don Potts (alternate for Jeff Canaan)	WA. Dept of Agriculture	WA. Dept. of Agriculture
Dan McCarthy	Okanogan Horticultural Association	Agricultural Community
<b><u>Members Absent</u></b>		
Gary Pruitt	Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency	Eastern Washington Local Air Authorities
John Cornwall	Grass Seed Industry	Grass Seed Industry
Bill Johnston	Washington State University	Academia, (Crop & Soil)

### **Introductions, Announcements**

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The 86th Agricultural Burning Practices and Research Task Force (Task Force) meeting was held on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 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.

The June meeting of the Task Force is reserved for hearing research project updates, and for the Task Force to consider revising, amending, and approving the Best Management Practices, (BMP's) for the upcoming year.

### **Research Presentation**

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The Task Force received an update report from one research project presented by Gerard Birkhauser from Washington State University. The title of the research project is: *Straw Management and Crop Rotation Alternatives to Burning Wheat Stubble: Assessing Economic and Environmental Trade-offs.*

The Task Force also recommended contract extension of the canola research conducted by Dr. Schillinger. Dr. Schillinger's research suffered a setback due to wildlife predation of his research plots at the Lind farm in Adams. The research plots will be moved to a location in Lincoln County and the research will continue.

Research update reports are available online at:  
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research.htm>

### **Task Force Updates**

Kary Peterson gave an update on the fee adjustment process. Adjusted fees go into effect July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. Information on the revised fee schedule can be found at:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/agricultural\\_homepage.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/agricultural_homepage.htm)

### **BMP's**

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

The Agricultural Burning Task Force reinstated the orchard BMP with no changes by unanimous vote. It is available at:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research\\_pdf\\_files/Orchard\\_BMP-2012.pdf](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research_pdf_files/Orchard_BMP-2012.pdf)

The Agricultural Burning Task Force reinstated the non-cereal BMP with no changes by unanimous vote. It is available at:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research\\_pdf\\_files/Non-Cereal\\_BMP-2012.pdf](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research_pdf_files/Non-Cereal_BMP-2012.pdf)

The Agricultural Burning Task Force reinstated the cereal grain BMP with no changes by unanimous vote. It is available at:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research\\_pdf\\_files/Cereal\\_BMP-2012.pdf](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research_pdf_files/Cereal_BMP-2012.pdf)

The Task Force reinstated the Spot Burn BMP with no changes by unanimous vote. It is available at: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research\\_pdf\\_files/Spot\\_Burn\\_BMP-2012.pdf](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research_pdf_files/Spot_Burn_BMP-2012.pdf)

The Task Force reinstated the Bale Burn BMP with no changes by unanimous vote. It is available at: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research\\_pdf\\_files/Bale\\_Burn\\_BMP-2012.pdf](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/research_pdf_files/Bale_Burn_BMP-2012.pdf)

The newly instituted BMPs are valid through June 30, 2013.

### **Public Comment**

Todd Kimbel a cereal grain grower from Walla Walla County gave a presentation about his need to burn outside the BMP's. His grain fields had suffered rain and hail damage. The fields have a mat of stubble 4 to 5 inches thick, plus standing stubble. Fields were 100 bushel an acre. He would like to burn, chem. fallow and seed in the fall. Due to the extreme conditions of his fields, the Task Force recommended he be allowed to burn outside of the BMP's.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting (Meeting #87) of the Agricultural Burning Practices and Research Task Force will be on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, from 10am to 4pm in Spokane, Washington. Information about the Task Force meetings, meeting summaries, completed and on-going research can be found on the Agricultural Burning website:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/agricultural\\_homepage.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/agricultural_homepage.htm)