



Environmental Health Services

● *Healthy Environments = Healthy People* ●

DEHS Directors' Meeting: 09/01/16

Meeting recording and attachments available; <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p99yxvqfx95/>¹

Next meeting December 1, 2016, 1:00-2:30PM ET

Alaska:	Denman Ondelacy	Nashville:	Kit Grosch
ANTHC:	Mike Brubaker	Navajo:	<i>Not on call</i>
Albuquerque:	Travis Bowser	Oklahoma:	<i>Not on call</i>
Bemidji:	Tim Taylor	Phoenix:	David Cramer
Billings:	Darcy Merchant	Portland:	Celeste Davis
California:	Carolyn Garcia	Tucson:	<i>Not on call</i>
Great Plains:	<i>Not on call</i>		
Environmental Health Support Center:	Angela Hodge		
Rockville:	Kelly Taylor, David McMahon, Charles Woodlee, Stephen Piontkowski		

1. HQ Senior EHS Position (Kelly Taylor)

- a. Announcement: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/448837200>
- b. GS-13/O-6
- c. Closes: September 25, 2016
- d. Duties will be a blend of current Senior EHS work and data management
 - i. General EH
 - ii. Data management, analysis, and reporting
 - iii. Assist w TIPCAP monitoring contract; liaise between Nancy, TIPCAP Coordinators, and IHS grants management personnel
- e. Clarification: This is not a Vice Darren position in that it involves or requires computer programming skills

2. OEHE Directors Meeting Topics (Kelly Taylor / David McMahon)

- a. Kelly emailed DEHS Directors copy of agenda for this meeting that will be in Minneapolis, MN, September 19-23, 2016
 - i. Please note agenda items on data accountability and Personnel Issues
- b. Discussions on the accuracy of workload-related data and accountability of that information
- c. IP Specialist vacancies: Kelly interested in discussing the need for full-time IP positions to be filled
- d. If folks have information/ideas to share on these topics please contact Kelly by September 16, 2016

3. Performance Measures (David McMahon)

- a. 2016-2020 Measures
 - i. *Environmental Surveillance and Injury Intervention Performance Measures* were due in WebEHRS on August 31, 2016

¹ Recording does not include first 4 minutes of call (i.e. excludes roll call and introductory comments HQ Senior EHS Position).



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- ii. See tables below and attached to Adobe Connect (PDF files available at <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p99yxvgfx95/>); data retrieved September 1, 2016 and
- iii. Discussion
 1. These are the current baseline measurements for the 2016-2020 performance measures
 2. 2016 Environmental Surveillance PM was 5.7% of observations out of compliance
 - a. Using other risk factors for this measure is not feasible at this time considering the complexity of retrieving the data and where we are in the process (i.e. it's too late now)
 - b. Or we use measures that are not dependent on WebEHRS
 - c. Currently we will need to commit to using these measures but it's not too early to begin thinking of what other measures could be possible
 3. Completed and Remaining Surveys by Area table shows 0% remaining, but not all establishments selected by Area's were surveyed
 - a. 56 establishments were not surveyed; 159 were surveyed
 - i. Some of the 56 establishments may be "back-up" establishments selected by Areas in case they needed to include them to make their establishment quota
 - b. If some of these 56 establishments are surveyed in the future that will alter the performance measure data b/c they were not included in the [2016] baseline calculation
 - c. Therefore, these 56 establishments will be removed from the list of establishments selected by Areas and the 159 surveyed should be surveyed consistently in the coming years
 - d. It is recognized the performance measures do not include the entire fiscal year (thru September 30) which can be a challenge to conduct surveys in Head Starts who begin school in August/September, however, the turnaround time for the budget narrative for which the measures are used is very short and the request for the narrative unpredictable (e.g. the request was made to HQ in mid-August this year and not in September as is usual)
 4. HQ appreciates the efforts made to get the work done and the performance measures in WebEHRS as agreed and asks Areas to continue to do their best using these established measures for 2016-2020



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5. 2016 Injury Prevention Surveillance PM was 64% of drivers were observed wearing seat belts
- iv. 2017 *Environmental Surveillance and Injury Intervention Performance Measures* will be to develop comprehensive interventions; a short summary is attached to the Adobe Connect meeting (PDF files available at <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p99yxvqfx95/>)
 1. *Environmental Surveillance*: select and initiate a minimum of three proven strategies to decrease foodborne illness risk factors; submit information on the chosen strategies into WebEHRS by August 31, 2017; and continue entering eSurveys into WebEHRS
 2. *IP*: select and initiate a minimum of three proven strategies to increase seat belt use; submit information on the chosen strategies into WebEHRS by August 31, 2017

DEHS National Environmental Surveillance 2016-2020 Performance Measure

Generated on 01-SEP-16 at 08.27.01 AM CT

Percent of Observations Out of Compliance Survey FY : FY 2016

Selected, Active and RRM Creditable Type 80s, 2001, 2005, 2009, 2013 and Navajo Nation, Routine/Finalized Surveys

Survey FY FY 2016

	Observations Marked as Out of Compliance	Observations Marked as In Compliance	Number of Potential Observations (IN + OUT)	Percent of Observations Out of Compliance
ALBUQUERQUE	8	106	114	7.0%
BEMIDJI	1	154	155	0.6%
BILLINGS	0	34	34	0.0%
CALIFORNIA	6	73	79	7.6%
GREAT PLAINS	3	206	209	1.4%
NASHVILLE	1	21	22	4.5%
NAVAJO	29	254	283	10.2%
OKLAHOMA	17	247	264	6.4%
PHOENIX	18	165	183	9.8%
PORTLAND	1	119	120	0.8%
TUCSON	1	31	32	3.1%
National Totals	85	1,410	1,495	5.7%



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DEHS National Environmental Surveillance 2016-2020 Performance Measure

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Completed and Remaining Surveys by Area

for Selected, Active and RRM Creditable Type 80s, FY16, Routine/Finalized Surveys

	Surveys Completed	Target Establishments	Remaining Surveys	Percent Remaining
ALASKA	0	7	7	100%
ALBUQUERQUE	15	15	0	0%
BEMIDJI	21	19	-2	-11%
BILLINGS	5	8	3	38%
CALIFORNIA	11	15	4	27%
GREAT PLAINS	27	24	-3	-13%
NASHVILLE	3	5	2	40%
NAVAJO	60	60	0	0%
OKLAHOMA	36	25	-11	-44%
PHOENIX	24	25	1	4%
PORTLAND	15	14	-1	-7%
TUCSON	4	5	1	20%
	221	222	1	0%



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Fiscal Year: FY 2016				
Area	Project Description	Surveillance Date	Surveillance Comments	% Drivers Wearing Seat Belts
ALBUQUERQUE	Zuni	07/22/2016		66%
BILLINGS	Browning: Jeff Severn Crow Agency: Roberta Other Medicine Lame Deer: Patricia Ramos Ft. Belknap: Stan Zander Poplar: Dennis Four Bear Ft. Washakie: Russell Savage Ethete: Lionel Bell	08/15/2016		25%
CALIFORNIA	Currently this is a place holder. We have three possible tribes that we may use for this project. Yurok, Tule, and LaJolia or Hoopa (but they have just lost their PD).	06/17/2016	Seat belt Observations were conducted at the Hoopa High School, with their project targeting primarily teen drivers using a program similar to the Battle of the Belts. 73% of drivers near the school grounds were restrained. 52% of front passengers observed were restrained and 50% of rear passengers observed were restrained.	73%
GREAT PLAINS	Sisseton-Wahpeton Tribe will be targeted.	06/09/2016	This observational survey was completed on the SWO reservation at 8 separate locations on three separate days at the same of day at each location site. Traffic was observed and recorded for both directions. 4202 drivers were observed wearing their seatbelts and a total of 6465 were observed.	65%
NAVAJO	The communities that will be targeted are Navajo (NM) and Ganado (AZ).	05/25/2016	This observational survey was in Navajo, New Mexico, in the southbound direction on May 25, 2016. The survey was conducted by Charlene Nelson for one hour at 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM.	64%
		05/28/2016	This observational survey was conducted on May 28, 2016 Elvina Clark-Joe. The location of the survey was the Navajo Northern Intersection; Walnut Avenue and BIA12. The survey was conducted at 11:30 AM.	
OKLAHOMA	Community of Apache, OK	03/29/2016	3/3/2016: Apache 4way, northbound traffic. 7:30-8:00. Road type: principal Conditions: dry Total Drivers: 51 Belted Drivers: 33 3/3/2016: Apache 4way, southbound traffic. 7:30-8:00. Road type: principal Conditions: dry Total Drivers: 72 Belted Drivers: 52 3/4/2016: Apache High School entrance. 7:30-8:00. Road Type: minor Conditions: dry Total Drivers: 6 Belted Drivers: 3	68%
PHOENIX	Targeted Communities: Ak-Chin; Salt River	08/05/2016	The data is a compilation of observations at 12 intersections in the Salt River Indian Community. Drivers belted: 63%; Males belted: 61%; Females belted: 66%	63%
PORTLAND	This injury prevention project will focus efforts to prevent injuries to motor vehicle drivers and passengers, as well as pedestrians, in the City of Toppenish on the Yakama Reservation. Project objectives and activities include surveillance of MVCs and MVC-related injuries, observational seat belt usage surveys, roadway condition evaluations, statutory reviews, and health communication/education.	07/05/2016		87%
National Average:				64%
No Report	Alaska			
	Benidji			
	Nashville			
	Tucson			



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4. Open Mic Call – Overview (Kelly Taylor / Stephen Piontkowski)

- a. This mirrors SFC's "Open Mic" calls they conducted the past few years that have increased communication among Headquarters, Area, and Field engineers throughout IHS; we hope the EHS "Open Mic" will be just as successful
- b. It's an opportunity for all IHS and tribal EH staff to ask questions of, and hear updates from, DEHS Headquarters
- c. Occurred on August 11, 2016 and lasted 1-hr
- d. 26 staff in Adobe room
- e. Areas: AB, AK, BE, CA, GP, PO, NV, OK, Holly/CDC
- f. It was an informal and casual setting facilitated by Kelly for staff to ask questions live during call
- g. A lesson learned from SFC was to provide staff a method to submit questions anonymously, so we offered [this SurveyMonkey link](#) for staff to do that
- h. No questions submitted via SurveyMonkey
- i. Topics discussed: concern with lack of full-time IP Specialists; WebEHRS; IP Fellowship; COSTEPs; Performance Measures
- j. Overall the call appeared to be well received
- k. Plan to host quarterly; next Open Mic in November 2016

5. COSTEPs (Stephen Piontkowski)

- a. 2016
 - i. Thanks for 2016 narratives: still need 4 (Josh Burns [BE], Timothy Arr [BI], Morgana Shorter [NV], Anika Larson [PH])
 - ii. We plan to post narratives to DEHS website in September 2016
 - iii. Preceptors ensure Form 4469 submitted to CC HQ
- b. 2017
 - i. New timeline from CC HQ
 1. September 01 – November 04, 2016: Applicants contact call center (800.279.1605) and access application forms
 2. November 18, 2016: Postmark applications deadline
 3. December 12-16, 2016: COSTEP selections by agencies
 4. Please note activities in the 2017 timeline are a few months earlier than in previous years, so be sure to adjust your own recruiting and planning timelines
 5. DEHS HQ will ask for Areas' lists of COSTEP recruits and preceptors to be submitted in early December 2016
 6. EHOPAC contacted EH accrediting bodies about the new timeline
- c. Pre-COSTEP call with potential preceptors
 - i. When: November 2016
 - ii. Who: Hosted by DEHS HQ
 - iii. What: Help ensure potential preceptors are prepared to fill that important role



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- iv. Target audience: EH staff interested in becoming or identified as being preceptors for 2017
- v. Agenda [draft]: overview of COSTEP (e.g. recruitment program); layout preceptor expectations; differentiate between CC HQ and IHS HQ; IHS HQ roles

6. Revisit WebEHRS Facility/Establishment Type Definitions (David McMahon)

- a. This was discussed at March 2016 DEHS Directors' Meeting (Minneapolis)
 - i. Do definitions need to be added, deleted, re-written, etc.?
- b. Summary list of establishment type categories attached to the Adobe Connect meeting (PDF files available at <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p99yxvgfx95/>)
- c. We will select a few of these establishment types during future DEHS Directors' calls to revise
- d. Details TBA but we'll focus on Wellness Centers and Casinos during the next call
- e. Need to discuss how we address data quality issues; used to have a "RRM Cop" feature but that is not available anymore

7. Injury Prevention Program Update (David McMahon)

- a. TIPCAP year 2 funds awarded this week
- b. TIPCAP monitoring contractor selected, but it cannot be announced until final steps of contracting process complete; we're nearly there

8. IEH Program Update (Charles Woodlee)

- a. Thank you for allowing IEHOs to participate in the various IEH Work Groups
- b. 2016-2017 Residency update: LT Hansen starting his second year of courses this fall; he completed two trips to OK and PH Areas; next trip to AB & maybe NV Areas
- c. 2017-2018 Residency: 2 positions will be available to earn MSPH; announcement for likely October/November 2016

9. Area Reports

- a. Alaska
 - i. Zika/Vectorborne diseases update
 - 1. ANTHC active with One Health associated with CDC's Arctic Investigations Program; recent quarterly meeting focused on invasive ticks (more ticks observed on dogs & people, expanding deer population); AK conducting a new tick monitoring program (focus on public outreach and ticks on game)
 - 2. No Zika specific activities but mosquito surveillance ongoing
 - ii. Blood monitoring of harvest; tissue sampling of shell fish; algal bloom study to determine health impacts
 - iii. ANTHC working on web-based tribal EH staff directory; features may include staff profiles, mapping, alerts



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- iv. Jaylene Wheeler, IP Specialist, resigned a few months ago
- v. Mary Smith toured Bethel with Brian Lefferts, EHS; so EH/OEHE was highlighted directly to the IHS “Director”
- vi. Alaska Area Director assigned as Deputy Director, IHS HQ, and Alaska Finance Director resigned so Denman and other staff covering the Alaska vacancy
- b. Albuquerque
 - i. Head Start Summits in August
 - 1. Espanola, NM (70 participants)
 - 2. Albuquerque, NM (99 participants)
 - ii. Animal health and welfare meeting among federal, state, tribal partners
 - 1. Task prioritization
 - 2. Follow-up meeting with USDA forthcoming to develop work plan
 - iii. FDA Southwest Region Food Conference
 - 1. Albuquerque, NM
 - 2. September 26-28, 2016
 - 3. DEHS helping to plan the meeting
 - iv. Introduction to IP course: November 15-18, 2016; Albuquerque, NM (seat limitation TBD)
 - v. Intermediate IP course: December 06-09, 2016; Albuquerque, NM (open to all)
 - vi. IEHOs preparing facility for accreditation surveys and rolling out infection control dashboard to facilities
 - vii. SU EHO, Albuquerque, announcement to be re-advertised
 - viii. SU EHO, Zuni, announcement closes September 6, 2016
- c. Bemidji
 - i. SU EHO, GS-5/7/9, Rhinelander, WI, via Pathways forthcoming
 - ii. Healthy Homes Environmental Health Specialist, GS-5/7/9, Rhinelander, WI, via Pathways [US EPA IAA] forthcoming
 - iii. DEHS staff supported Bad River Tribal flood response (e.g. liaised with other tribes to secure assets; generators; refrigeration trucks for medication)
- d. Billings
 - i. Director, OEHE, Billings, Area, returning from Wind River SU after Acting CEO there 4-5 months
 - ii. COSTEPs finished tours as recently as yesterday
 - iii. TIPCAP grantees continue to make progress
 - 1. TIPCAP strategic planning meeting October 25-27, 2016 in Billings, MT
 - iv. IP Five Year Plan being developed and will include the IP Performance Measure
 - v. IEH Program: Ricardo building program
 - vi. Zika update
 - 1. SUs providing education
 - 2. Tribes conducting fogging programs



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- e. California
 - i. Gun safe pilot project: Yurok Tribe via United Indian Health Services; DEHS funded; kicked-off in August
 - ii. OPH site reviews: 4 completed
 - iii. 1 pre-Joint Commission accreditation survey completed of a facility
 - iv. Zika/Vectorborne diseases update
 - 1. SU guidance document on what to do if positive case identified at SU was drafted by DEHS; next step is to reach out to tribal health boards and build partnerships with local vector control programs
 - 2. DEHS attended USEPA R9 workshop
 - v. Wildfire at Hoopa Valley Tribe: DEHS may provide TA re: concerns of fire retardant applied to land and water quality issues; evacuations lifted; demobilizations
 - vi. DEHO, Sacramento, vacancy selection in progress
 - vii. New SU EHO position in Arcata, CA being developed
- f. Great Plains – *not on call*
- g. Nashville
 - i. Car seat training: 9 of 11 participants passed; \$10,000 worth of car seats to be given to them
 - ii. Mashpee Service Unit accreditation in progress; DEHS providing support
 - iii. Final seat belt survey scheduled for end of September 2016
- h. Navajo – *not on call*
- i. Oklahoma – *not on call*
- j. Phoenix
 - i. Zika/Vectorborne diseases update
 - 1. Zika: EPA R9 Tribal Section, met with Kenny and Chief Medical Officer, Phoenix Area to discuss RMSF and Zika prevention efforts and potential for tribes to receive EPA resources; Kenny and Vince Garcia invited to participate in workshop (San Francisco) where the potential for GAP funds to be used for vector control was discussed (\$700K possibly available); FY17 funding cycle closed but same amount expected for FY18
 - 2. Zika: DEHS drafting two-page guideline for PH practitioners on what to do if positive case identified on reservation
 - 3. RMSF: fatality in San Carlos, AZ in August 2016 was first one since 2013; 6 year old male. Enhanced education of health care providers conducted. ADHS reported significant decline of human cases in San Carlos in recent years which coincide with ongoing education and routine prevention campaigns (community education, residential pesticide applications, dog collaring) and strong partnerships with CDC, state, county, IHS, and tribe. Next prevention campaign scheduled for fall 2016.



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- ii. Staffing
 - 1. Farewell: Jose Velascosoltero from San Carlos, AZ to USAF
 - 2. Forthcoming: SU EHO GS-7/9, San Carlos, AZ; SU EHO GS-7/9, Parker, AZ (both via Pathways)
- k. Portland
 - i. Zika update since end of May 2016
 - 1. None
 - ii. Wellpinit Service Unit: Celeste Acting CEO; she was heavily involved in wildfire response; 14 homes destroyed, power loss, air quality concerns; air scrubbers at SU and Tribal Emergency Operations Center minimized impact on those facilities
 - iii. Community EH assessments: one near completion; another tribal resolution passed to conduct; data sharing agreement with both
 - iv. Portland Area Clinical Directors Meeting: late-October; Pediatric Health Specialty Unit, University Of Washington to present; DEHS staff will attend to discuss EH referrals and the experience with that for asthma cases in Yakama
 - v. EPA Project at Childcare and Head Starts: Conduct EH sampling and surveys at direct service tribes; went through OMB process to collect data
 - vi. IEH: Matthew is co-lead on accreditation readiness team
 - vii. PH Accreditation Board: Celeste met director of board at a national community health conference; 40 tribes at conference; several tribes interested in accreditation
 - viii. FDA Courses: Two to be conducted in FY17; details TBA
 - ix. Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board received Self Governance Planning Grant expressed intention to assume EH positions
 - x. Celeste to retire February 01, 2017; terminal leave begins at Christmas
- l. Tucson – *not on call*
- m. EHSC
 - i. CAPT Turner's retirement effective September 01, 2017; Stefanie Pecos-Duarte is Acting
 - ii. Website development ongoing
 - iii. Introduction to IP course: October 25-27, 2016; Sacramento, CA
 - iv. Introduction to IP course: November 15-18, 2016; Albuquerque, NM (seat limitation TBD)
 - v. Intermediate IP course: December 06-09, 2016; Albuquerque, NM (open to all)
 - vi. Infection Control course contract in progress
 - vii. Receiving SNAP course materials; one even from Canada that was forwarded to Nancy
 - viii. Emerging Leaders Course and Mid-level Leaders course being developed by Terracon
 - ix. Completed 5 Play-Safe courses



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- x. EH Competencies not posted to website; Angela will share with Kelly to distribute

10. Other

- a. WebEHRS contract: currently in technical evaluation phase of the re-solicitation of the next WebEHRS contract; evaluation team meets next on September 06
- b. Please share zika documents/guidelines your programs prepare as IHS HQ is also preparing an agency-wide guideline and your documents may be able to contribute materials developed agency-wide
 - i. Should DEHS wait for CDC/States to develop culturally appropriate health education materials and other guidelines? If you decide to develop such materials you should go through the IHS Public Affairs approval process and cite references in your materials

Next meeting December 01, 2016, 1:00-2:30PM ET