

Oregon OSHA – ALH RAC

Worker Representative meeting

April 27, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Attendees: Sarah Rew, Renee Stapleton, Julie Love, Tomas Schwabe, Kathy Keesee, Laurie Hoefler, Nargess Shadbeh,

1. OR OSHA updates: (Renee Stapleton as Acting Administrator)

2. Survey update

The group briefly discussed the ALH survey that was administered, including the number of respondents.

Kathy Keesee (from chat): is there an estimate of how many growers provide labor housing?

Oregon OSHA: the database is available on our website – it varies year to year. Registration currently sits around 330-360.

3. Recap from last meeting: (COVID-19 in ALH changes, Governor Brown's multi-agency task force, ALH survey, ALH definitions (adequate, air conditioning, committed relationship, immediate family, hot water, housing unit, privacy, privy, sanitary, season, seasonal))

4. Discussion of ALH rule exemptions – OAR 437-004-1120(2)(a-c):

437-004-1120

(2) These rules do not apply to:

(a) hotels or motels that provide similar housing commercially to the public on the same terms as they do to workers.

(b) accommodations subject to licensing as manufactured dwelling parks, organizational camps, traveler's accommodations or recreation vehicle parks and open to the general public on the same terms.

(c) manufactured homes or dwellings being moved regularly from place to place because of the work when at parks or camps meant for parking mobile vehicles and open to the general public on the same terms.

Question about the survey: Does Oregon OSHA have geographical information about the respondents and their responses?

Oregon OSHA: No, in order to encourage participation we did not ask for site location.

The group discussed the usage of hotels/motels and how in recent years there have been bedbug outbreaks where workers are housed.

Kathy Keesee talked about terrible housing conditions in southern Oregon and shared a picture of a site that doesn't meet current rules.

Nargess Shadbeh requested that cooking provisions (number of burners, etc.) be improved, commenting on the difficulties when multiple people share facilities.

Kathy Keesee mentioned that access to refrigeration and food prep areas were a concern in hotels/motels, as was access to fire extinguishers.

Tomas Schwabe commented that there is a current rule penalizing someone who operates housing for not registering it with Oregon OSHA.

The group also discussed rule exemptions, in particular RVs or mobile homes being moved from site to site. It appears that this occurs less frequently.

Oregon OSHA stated they will look at shepherders as a subgroup to understand their housing needs better.

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Employer Representative meeting

April 27, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Attendees: Sarah Rew, Lou Savage, Renee Stapleton, Dave McLaughlin, Mike Omeg, Ann Billette, Matt Borman, Jenny Dressler, Erin Roby, Nicole Mann, Jeff Stone, Mike Omeg, Tim Mahern-Macias

5. **OR OSHA updates** (Renee Stapleton as Acting Administrator)
6. **Survey update**
7. **Recap from last meeting:** COVID-19 in ALH changes, Governor Brown's multi-agency task force, ALH survey, ALH definitions (adequate, air conditioning, committed relationship, immediate family, hot water, housing unit, privacy, privy, sanitary, season, seasonal),
8. **Discussion of ALH rule exemptions:**

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Some group participants stated they didn't use RV parks (growers stated RV parks are more common in the construction industry, rather than agriculture).

The group discussed which workers might move from camp to camp in RVs (workers at fire camps, shepherders, etc.). Information was shared in the chat about contacts in the sheep grower community.

Question: would ALH rules apply to a company retreat? The rule is unclear in this regard.

The group discussed registration requirements – specifically, registration requirements when multiple employers share the same site over the course of the year.

The group discussed elaborating on when a subsequent consultation would be required.

One grower stated that annual consultation was not a burden, and that their consultation visits were of high quality, but that they worried about the possibility of additional consultation visits – and how Oregon OSHA would maintain the same quality; other growers echoed that concern.