



National Environmental  
Health Association

# Successes and Challenges of Coordinating Across Sectors to Enhance Preparedness and Response of Environmental Health Disasters

Preparedness Committee

September 2023




# Today's Agenda

- Welcome
- NEHA's Environmental Public Health  
Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Activities
- Introductions
- Moderated Panel Session
- Q&A
- Closing





# NEHA Preparedness Projects and Activities



National Environmental Health Association

Environmental Public Health Strike Team Guidance



neha National Environmental Health Association

**WILDFIRE RESPONSE**  
Guide for Environmental Public Health Professionals

Summer 2023

NEW NEHA Resource Library

Includes separate hubs for:

- Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
- Concurrent Disasters resources




Concurrent Disasters Needs Assessment Report  
2022





NEHA

Environmental Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities



Environmental Health Disaster Management Leadership Online training and Mentorship Program



# Panelists



CAPT J. Christopher Yee  
Sr. Emergency Response Coordinator,  
Office of Import Operations at the FDA



Kelly Dipolt  
Division Director,  
EPA's Center for Environmental  
Solutions and Emergency Response,  
Technical Support Coordination  
Division

# Panelists



Megan Floyd  
Supervising Environmental  
Specialist  
Environmental Compliance Division  
Water Protection Program  
Sacramento County, CA



Sauda Yerbati,  
Chief, Environmental Health  
Support Section Center  
California Dept. of Health

# Webinar Moderator



Kai Elgethun  
Region 8 Director, Office of  
Community Health and Hazard  
Assessment, Agency for Toxic  
Substances and Disease  
Registry

# Questions for the Panel

1. Information sharing and cooperative action across sectors is essential for enhanced preparedness and response to environmental public health threats/issues faced in disasters. What are some challenges in fostering a mutual commitment to information sharing through trusted partnerships?
2. Can you share examples of what has worked to facilitate sharing of critical information and resources across sectors?
3. What are some barriers that impede coordination across sectors? What are some specific barriers facing environmental public health professionals responding to emergencies?
4. How can existing resources be leveraged to increase coordination efforts?
5. Are there existing gaps in funding, tools, and/or training for environmental public health professionals that impact the ability for more coordinated emergency preparedness and response?
6. Can you share examples of successful cross-sector collaboration in emergency preparedness and response?



# Q & A





[neha.org](http://neha.org)