# Timber, Fish and Wildlife Policy Committee Thursday, February 2, 2023// 9:00AM – PM Hybrid Meeting

In-Person: Ecology Building located at 300 Desmond Dr. SE, Lacey, WA 98503, Room# R1S-16/17
Virtual: Zoom (Link Listed Below)

Motions	
Motion	Move/Second (Vote)
January 2023 Meeting Minutes  Motion: Ken Miller moved to approve the January 2023 minutes.	Seconded: Tom O'Brien Up: Brandon Austin, Alec Brown, Darin Cramer, Ken Miller, Tom O'Brien, Court Stanley, and Cody Thomas Down:
The motion passed	Abstain: Marc Engel and Jim Peters Absent:

Action Items		
Action Items	Responsibility	
Check other available days for Science Conference, (day after FPB Meeting).	Natalie Church	
Send out link to general TFW Policy SharePoint	Natalie Church	
Discuss the best way to embed the SharePoint link in each email.	Natalie Church and Lori Clark	
Create Wetlands/WMZ Workgroup	Westside, DNR, Ecology, Counties, and Industry Eastside (maybe)	
Create SAO Recommendation/Board Manual 22 Workgroup	DNR, WDFW, Ecology, Counties, Industry, and Westside Eastside (maybe)	
Gathering what has already been done SAO Recommendation/Board Manual 22 workgroup	Lori Clark	
Review Experimental Alternative Harvest Prescriptions	Voting Members	

Review Eastside Forest Health Strategy	Voting Members
Co-chairs to meet with CMER co-chairs on Extensive Monitoring	Brandon Austin and Court Stanley
Co-chairs to communicate via email to prepare for next month's meeting	Brandon Austin and Court Stanley
Send out Wetlands PowerPoint Presentation	Natalie Church

#### **Caucus Updates:**

- Ground rules:
  - Court Stanley read "keep your weapons at the door." (Jim Peters explained the reasoning behind the ground rule.)
- Alec Brown is leaving his full time at his organization but, will be a part of TFW Policy until another person has been hired.

#### **Staff Updates:**

- Lori Clark explained that Rachel Rubin is officially on parental leave and will return in July. Lila Westreich will be filling in while Rachel is gone.
- Lori Clark explained that Triangle Associates are planning on reaching out to TFW Policy members to schedule one-on-one meetings to discuss the Interest-Based Negotiations for workshop in May.

### **CMER Updates:**

A.J. Kroll CMER co-chair reviewed the CMER SAG updates document and what was discussed at last month's CMER meeting.

#### **Public Comments:**

No public comments.

#### **CMER Science Conference:**

A.J. Kroll explained that the CMER Science Conference workgroup discussed that presenters would use the presentation template that was used in the past and the presentation will be 20 minutes with a 10-minute Q&A and a 30-minute discussion with the audience at the end of the day. He reviewed the projects that CMER have decided to present. The list is longer than there is time for and because of that, some of projects will be presented on posters. It has not been decided if there will be a virtual option as we do not know the connections/set-up of the room and if it makes sense. There was discussion on changing the day of the conference as the day before the Forest Practices Board is busy and will be difficult for most people to attend. It was decided that Natalie Church will try to change the date to the day after the Forest Practices Board.

#### **Wetland Presentation/WMZ Charter Discussion:**

Tanner Williamson gave a presentation on the Wetlands and WMZ Charter. Darin Cramer and others commented that this type of presentations should be done for each project earlier in the process. Brandon

Austin asked about how the functions will be affected and how long they will be affected. Debbie Kay explained that all the details are in the document previously shared to TFW Policy. Darin Cramer suggested creating a workgroup between the technical team and TFW Policy members. Giving them the opportunity to discuss objectives and target development of the project. Lori Clark explained that there is a firewall between TFW Policy and CMER. Court Stanley mentioned that wetlands change over time. Jim Peters agrees with Court and that they are drastically changing with ground water. Mark Mobbs posted a comment in the chat "The wetlands and riparian groups in FFR were not the same - I was on the Riparian group, but not the wetlands or non-fish bearing riparian groups. with different groups doing the work, I do not think we can assume a priority at this late date.). Chris Mendoza also posted a comment in the chat "see Chapter 4 of FP HCP EIS: 4.7 Riparian and Wetland Processes for technical documentation with references". Tanner Williamson explained that the knowledge and literature review explained that there is not substantial evidence in the PNW but have built substantial knowledge of the project in other locations. He suggested having TFW Policy members that are interested should review the literature review. Lori suggested adding this question into the prospective 6 questions, and she will gather the documents that Tanner was talking about and create a folder in SharePoint Online for the documents.

#### **AMP Science Review:**

Tim Quinn, Gretchen Sneegas, and Alex McTurff gave a presentation on the update on the AMP Science Review Project.

#### **February Forest Practices Board Overview:**

Marc Engel reviewed the February Forest Practices Board agenda and what will be presented for each agenda item.

#### **SAO Recommendation/Board Manual 22 Update:**

Marc Engel explained that the plan is to have something to present at the May Forest Practices Board. Marc is in support of workgroup but, explained that Policy are the ones that need to present it to Forest Practices Board. Policy has given good recommendations but needs to be expanded on before presenting it to the Forest Practices Board. Brandon suggested having the workgroup create a document that members can edit and add comments. Marc suggested that the workgroup present regular updates and bring any questions forward instead of waiting until everything has been completed. There was a discussion on which caucus' wanted to participate.

#### **Experimental Alternative Harvest Prescriptions:**

Marc Engel gave a brief history of the SFL Alternative Harvest Prescriptions. The documents that were sent out are the documents that were brought to TFW Policy in the past, they give the history of the prescriptions and gives a place to start. Ken Miller gave a few corrections on the language of the documents. He explained that he is presenting this to TFW Policy and will be a decision item at next month's meeting.

#### **Eastside Forest Health Strategy:**

Brandon Austin gave an update on what the workgroup has completed. He explained that they are presenting the document the workgroup created this month and have it as a decision item at the next month's TFW Policy meeting.

#### **MPS Contingency Plan:**

Lori Clark reviewed the MPS Contingency Plan and what was discussed at the last Budget workgroup meeting. The MPS Contingency Plan was developed by the AMPA and the Policy Budget Workgroup for

TFW Policy consideration. This is taking a proactive approach at budget adjustments should a budget shortfall occur. Even though the AMP budget is fully supported in the Governor's operating budget for the next biennium, TFW Policy will need to approve a Contingency Plan. The contingency plan will be updated every 6 months. The goal is to:

- Agree on a budget adjustment approach that accounts for a potential \$2.3 million budget shortfall for the 23-25 biennium.
- Improve the quality of budget making for the AMP including better and accurate cost estimates for research projects as well as expenditure projections; and to
- Adjust the total MPS value for future biennia such that there are no more 5% under expenditure in each biennium.

There are two approaches outlined in this proposal. One is to make no MPS adjustments under the assumptions that there is a pattern of under expenditure in the MPS of between 15 and 25%. The other option is to reduce the total MPS by \$2.3million by

- a) Pause the implementation of AMP reform efforts including administrative elements of the State Auditor Office (SAO) recommendations
- b) Pause the scoping and study design development of new projects or do not acquire external expertise for this category of work as well as pause implementation except for Board priorities
- c) Maintain current funding level for all projects that are in active implementation phase but reduce values by 20% to account for likely under expenditure

AMP Staff are working on developing a project lifecycle tracking system and improving project cost estimations. This is expected to provide better estimates of projected expenditure.

The MPS contingency plan in your packet outlines all this information and is up for TFW Policy review. This does not need to be presented to the FPB. Marc gave a suggestion that this is something that we could add to the BM if this is something that we need/want to do.

#### **Extensive Monitoring Response to CMER:**

Court Stanley gave a brief explanation of what was decided at the joint CMER/TFW Policy workshop. Policy needs to give guidance on riparian stand. Cody Thomas stated that he feels like Policy sent CMER questions too quickly because Policy wasn't exactly sure what they wanted to be done for this project. Alec Brown explained that he believes that CMER is asking what Policy intend to use the results for. Court Stanley stated that he feels that functions are why we are leaving riparian zones to help with the habitat. Marc Engel asked if we are trying to see if we are leaving the appropriate functions. Cody posted the following question in the meeting's chat: "How does the application of forest practice rules affect riparian functions over time and across the landscape? Functions: LWD recruitment, shade, leaf and litterfall, bank stability, sediment filtration, and streambank stability. Of course, temperature would accompany shade. I think it would make sense to have study alternatives prepared for each function, along with details on the population (FFR lands, east side, west side), spatial scale of the study (probabilistic, generalized random tessellated sample [GRTS], watershed specific, etc.), approach (MBACI, ACI, experiment, etc.)., cost, and necessary time to monitor to get results. Each alternative would need to include the appropriate testable hypotheses that would be addressed, so CMER/Policy/Board know ahead of time what they are buying". The question is a broad question and then list what functions Policy wants then CMER can make those decisions. Jenny Knoth explained what she is hearing is Policy would like to explain what they are wanting and then CMER can come back with details. This is not going to answer all the questions, Extensive Monitoring is there to give a baseline. John Heimburg explained that he doesn't think BACI is there for Extensive Monitoring to deliver quantitative information. Monitoring is not testing a hypothesis; it is simply collecting data. Lori Clark shared the MDT Report and passage "Extensive Riparian Monitoring will evaluate the response of key aquatic and riparian indicators to the implementation of the FFR across the entire range of environmental conditions on FFR lands across the state. This is a population-scale estimate of conditions and sites will be selected without regard to current conditions or management history in order to obtain an unbiased estimate". Alexander explained that the passage is not going to help CMER as they are aware of the

report. Darin Cramer said if there isn't a solution/decision soon this should be called into dispute. It was decided that the CMER/TFW Policy co-chairs will discuss what needs to be done to help this move forward.

# **Legislative Updates:**

TFW Policy members shared Legislative updates for each of their caucus'.

# **List of Attendees**

**Attendees** Representing

Attenuees	Kepresenting
§Austin, Brandon	Ecology/TFW Policy Co-chair
§Brown, Alec	WEC/Conservation Caucus
§Cramer, Darin	Large Industrial Landowner Caucus/WFPA
§Engel, Marc	State Caucus/DNR
§Miller, Ken	Small Forest Landowner/WFFA
§O'Brien, Tom	State Caucus/WDFW
§Peters, Jim	Westside Tribes/NWIFC
§Stanley, Court	TFW Policy Co-chair/WSAC
§Thomas, Cody	Eastside Tribe Caucus/UCUT
Black, Jenelle	CMER Staff
Church, Natalie	Administrative Assistant/DNR
Clark, Lori	Supervisory Project Manager/DNR
Heimburg, John	WDFW
Kay, Debbie	Suquamish Tribe/CMER Voting Member
Knoth, Jenny	WFFA/CMER Co-chair
Kroll, A.J.	Weyerhaeuser/CMER Co-chair
Lowery, Darric	State Caucus/WDFW (Proxy for Tom O'Brien 9:00-10:00)
Martin, Doug	CMER Voting Member
Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus/CMER
Mitchell, Robert	Member of Public
McIntyre, Aimee	WDFW/CMER Voting Member
McTurff, Alex	University of Washington
Mobbs, Mark	Quinault Indian Nation
Murray, Joe	RSAG Co-chair
Quinn, Timothy	DFW
Roorbach, Ash	Westside Tribes/NWIFC
Schofield, Jenny	Project Manager/DNR
Sneegas, Gretchen	University of Washington
Smith, Kendra	Skagit
Williamson, Tanner	CMER Staff
Zirkle, Karen	DNR

§TFW Policy Voting Member