

CMER SAG UPDATES

February 2021

WetSAG

Co-Chairs: Debbie Kay & Harry Bell

AMP Project Manager: Eszter Munes

Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project

- A subgroup was formed to work on the Site Selection and Data Management document (Harry B., Debbie K, Jenelle B., Eszter M., and Amy Y.). Subgroup members have made progress on the document and expect to continue working on it through February 2021. They are currently building maps for preliminary site selection, as well as determining variables to be measured, equipment needs, and site layout.

Wetlands Intrinsic Potential Tool- WIP

- Contractor has received CMER reviewers' comments and is working on completing the comment matrix. Comment matrix will be returned to CMER reviewers by mid-February.
- The Contractor and WetSAG have drafted the Policy Six Questions Document. It is expected to be submitted for WetSAG review in March once CMER reviewers have accepted edits made to address their comments.

Wetlands Management Zone

- WetSAG has voted to move forward with scoping for WMZ in FY21. Debbie Kay has taken the lead on developing a task list for the process, including some preliminary GIS work to inform scoping discussions and generating a list of wetland functions to evaluate for inclusion in the study. Update to the project charter is in progress. Additional tasks and a work plan will be forthcoming.
- Per the MPS approved by the FP Board at their August meeting, all funding for the WMZ project was delayed until FY 26 (study design) with implementation funding slated to begin in FY 28.

UPSAG

Co-Chairs: Ted Turner & Kara Whittaker

AMP Project Manager: Teresa Miskovic

Deep-Seated Landslide Research Strategy

- Work is continuing on study design development, with the current target being to have a draft study design prepared for SAG review at their June 2021 meeting.

SAGE

Chair: Todd Baldwin

AMP Project Manager: Teresa Miskovic

Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project (ETHEP)

- CMER review of the scoping document was initiated at the September 22nd meeting and comments were received and incorporated into the response matrix and scoping document. CMER reviewers reviewed the revisions with feedback received from two of the four reviewers.
- After review of the revisions, concerns remain with the document and there is disagreement on how or if these should be resolved. As suggested, this will come to CMER for approval at the February meeting where dispute resolution can be triggered if necessary.

Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP)

- Harvest at the Springdale basin will begin at the end of February. The last pre-harvest forest mensuration measurements will be taken prior to harvest.
- A request for Pilot Rule making at the Blue Grouse site was considered and approved at the February 10th FPB meeting.
- The Project Team finalized the project management plan and it was approved at the February SAGE meeting.
- University of Idaho tasks
 - General site maintenance, collection of stream sediment samples, and data downloaded.
 - All data has been backed up and QA/QC is underway.
- Utah State University tasks
 - Processing of fall benthic invertebrate sampling.
 - Compiling data for initial pre-treatment data analysis.

Eastside Modeling Effectiveness Project (EMEP)

- CMER approved the Six Questions document their January meeting. The Contractor provided a presentation at TFW Policy on February 4, 2021. The AMPA delivered the Findings Report at the same meeting starting the deliberation clock at Policy for this project.

RSAG

Chair: Joe Murray

AMP Project Managers: Teresa Miskovic (BTO, RCS), Eszter Munes (Soft Rock, Type F, LWD, Smart Buffer, SFLO)

Riparian Characteristics and Shade Response Study

- The study design and response matrix was revised based on CMER comments and the CMER reviewers reviewed the revisions and approved the study design. The study design came to CMER for approval to send to ISPR at the January CMER meeting and it was not approved. RSAG will work with the two reviewers that did not approve the document to try and resolve their concerns.
- Additional treatments have been proposed by some RSAG members to add to the current study. The additional treatments were considered by RSAG and CMER and consensus was not reached.

Type N Soft Rock Final report

- **ISPR Review of Final Report:** All chapters have undergone ISPR review and returned to the authors by December 2020. Authors expect to complete revisions for all Chapters by early April, with the exception of Chapter 5 – *Stream discharge, turbidity, and suspended sediment export*, which is being considered for removal from the report. The authors will provide an update on this decision during the February CMER meeting.
- **Extended Monitoring:** Data collection for Spring – Fall 2020 has been completed. Extended monitoring data will be reported either as an addendum to the Final Report or as a separate report. CMER will make a formal recommendation to Policy after the data is presented, tentatively in spring 2021.

Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project

- Comments on the Final Report were returned to Jenelle Black in July 2020 and revisions are nearly complete. Final RSAG review and revisions are planned through March, and delivery to CMER in April.
- The project team met in July 2020 to initiate work on the BACI study design. After the completion of the exploratory report, the team will resume working on refining study questions. An RSAG reviewed and approved study design is expected to be delivered to CMER in early 2022.
- Per the MPS approved by the FP Board at their August meeting, all funding for the implementation of the Westside Type F project was delayed until FY 25. The project team will continue to work on the study design and other project elements utilizing internal resources in the interim.

Extensive Status and Trends Monitoring Workshop

- The workshop was held January 29th, 2021. The Policy workgroup will discuss next steps for Extensive Monitoring based on information shared at the workshop.

WFPA Smart Buffer Design

- In January 2020, the author, Doug Martin, responded to a third round of revisions on the study design. The author met with reviewers on Feb 11, 2021 to discuss any outstanding concerns and a pathway forward. He agreed to make some additional revisions, which the group will discuss on March 10, 2020.
- CMER requested that TFW Policy provide feedback about the need for ISPR review for the study design and provide clarity on what the study will inform. Some TFW Policy members suggested that the study design would benefit from ISPR review, but no specific motion was made. TFW Policy did not provide specifics about what the study results will inform.
- On February 10, 2021, RSAG passed the following motion: “I motion that RSAG recommend to CMER that we do an open ISPR review of the Smart Buffer study design.” However, this is a CMER decision and they have not voted to submit it for an ISPR review yet.

ISAG

Co-Chairs: Jason Walter, Cody Thomas

AMP Project Manager: Eszter Munes

Water Typing Strategy

- Projects currently included in the Water Typing Strategy are: Default Physical Criteria Assessment (DPC), Potential Habitat Breaks (PHB), LiDAR Based Water Typing Model (LiDAR), and Fish/Habitat Detection Using eDNA (eDNA).
- The ISAG water typing subgroup is currently working on the PHB study design. In February the group worked through various sections of the Methods and is pulling together questions for a possible consult with a statistician.
- In January and February, the group updated the PHB charter and developed a PHB Project Management Plan.
- A memo detailing progress on the PHB study design was submitted to the FP Board for their quarterly meeting in February.

eDNA Pilot Study

- In May 2020, CMER agreed to send the eDNA Pilot Study back to Brooke, PI for revisions. The revisions were completed, moved from ISAG to CMER for approval, and presented to CMER in December 2020. The motion to approve and send the final report to Policy failed to pass. CMER voting members will meet to resolve handling of the final report in a dispute resolution meeting on February 17, 2021.

LWAG

Co-Chairs: AJ Kroll & Aimee McIntyre

AMP Project Manager: Heather Gibbs

Hard Rock Phase II

- ISPR has returned the second round of comments and PIs/Authors are working on remaining chapters which still have edits to address.
- ISPR approved Chapter 5- Stream discharge, turbidity, and suspended sediment and Chapter 6- Nitrogen Export have been sent to CMER for review. Approval of these two chapters will be voted on at the February CMER meeting.

Amphibian in Discontinuous Type Np Waters

- The Contractor continues to summarize information from the references found in the original search for information.
- Drafting of the Scoping Document is ongoing and will be reviewed by LWAG.

Hard Rock Phase III – Amphibians Demographics

- Work will begin soon on completing a charter and project management plan for this phase of this project.

Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring Project Team

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Charlie Luce, Tom Black, Bob Danehy, Erkan Istanbuluoglu, Amanda Manaster, Jenelle Black.

AMP Project Manager: Teresa Miskovic, Heather Gibbs (Field Coordinator)

- Road maintenance work was completed on January 2021 in the Siltstone province. The limited public works contract is completed. Future work will be completed by the DNR Heavy Equipment Crew.
- Year 2 data collection will be continued by West Fork Environmental on February 16th. Project team members completed bi-weekly site inspections and maintenance checks during the first two weeks in February.
- A pilot for the Short Time Scale experiment will be conducted during the first week of March to test all the equipment and study design.

Unstable Slope Criteria Project Team

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Dan Miller, Ted Turner, Greg Stewart (CMER Staff)

AMP Project Manager: Teresa Miskovic

- Greg Stewart is using OBIA to delineate landscape features. He has been creating topographic indices, writing scripts for identifying roads and water bodies using NAIP and DTM in state plane, and exploring methods and scales for interpolating LAS into meter scale DEM's for unstable landform ID.
- The project team met February 12th to discuss the items Greg is working on, Dan Miller's work developing ArcGIS Pro Python scripts, and steps for drafting the final report.

CMER Work Plan Improvement Group

AMP Support: Heather Gibbs

- The final version of the 2021-2023 CMER Work Plan was approved by CMER at their January meeting.
- Major edits were summarized and discussed at the TFW Policy meeting in February.
- The Work Plan Improvement Group will begin work in the spring of 2021.

Small Forest Landowner PI – Outside science review

AMP Support: Eszter Munes

- The SFLO outside science review workgroup has completed their deliberations concerning the generation of a six questions document. The group was unable to come into consensus on a single set of six question responses. The group developed two separate sets of responses to the six questions that will be presented to CMER along with a summary memo at their December meeting.
- The workgroup will revise the memo on February 17, 2021.
- During the January CMER meeting, Harry Bell presented a proposal for dispute resolution for lack of progress on the six questions document. Per feedback during the meeting, he revised his proposal

and submitted to the workgroup on February 9, 2021. The workgroup will discuss the proposal during a meeting on February 17, 2021.

Anticipated Documents for CMER Consideration/Review Next 12 Months

Project Name	Document Type	Project Manager	Science Lead/PI	Oversight Committee	Anticipated Date of Delivery
ETHEP	Scoping Document	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	SAGE	Oct-20
WIP	CMER Approved Final Report	Gibbs	Meghan Halabisky (UW)	WetSAG	Oct-20
RCS	Study Design	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Jan-21
ETHEP	Policy Six questions document	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	SAGE	Mar-21
Potential Habitat Breaks	Charter	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	ISAG	Feb-21
Potential Habitat Breaks	Project Management Plan	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	ISAG	Feb-21
ENREP	Project Management Plan	Miskovic	Tim Link (U.I.)	SAGE	Feb-21
eDNA Pilot - DR outcome	Final Report	Munes	Brooke Penaluna (USFS)	ISAG	Mar-21
Discontinuous Np Surface Flows	Scoping	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Jun-21
Hard Rock Phase III - Amphibian Demographics	Charter	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Apr-21
Westside Type F Pilot	Final Report	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	Apr-21
WIP	Policy Six question document	Gibbs	Meghan Halabisky (UW)	WetSAG	Apr-21
ETHEP	Updated Charter	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	SAGE	Apr-21
ENREP	Updated Charter	Miskovic	Tim Link (U.I.)	SAGE	Apr-21
Default Physicals Criteria	Charter	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	ISAG	May-21
Default Physicals Criteria	Project Management Plan	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	ISAG	May-21
Hard Rock Phase II	ISPR Approved Final Report	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Feb-21
Soft Rock	ISPR Approved Final Report	Munes	Bill Ehinger (DOE)	RSAG	May-21
Westside Type F Pilot	Final Report Six Questions Document	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	May-21
Westside Type F BACI	Charter	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	May-21
FWEF	Project Management Plan	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	WetSAG	May-21
RCS	Project Management Plan	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Jun-21
Unstable Slopes Criteria Project - Landform Mapping	Final Report	Miskovic	Greg Stewart (CMER)	UPSAG	Jun-21
Hard Rock Phase III - Amphibian Demographics	Project Management Plan	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Jun-21
Potential Habitat Breaks	Study Design	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	ISAG	Jul-21
Wetland Management Zone	Charter	Munes	Unknown	WetSAG	Aug-21
RCS	Policy Six questions document	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Aug-21
RCS	Updated Charter	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Aug-21

Default Physicals Criteria	Study Design	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	ISAG	Sep-21
Deep Seated Landslide Strategy: Landslide Mapping and Classification	Study Design	Miskovic	Greg Stewart (CMER)	UPSAG	Dec-21
Unstable Slopes Criteria Project - Susceptibility and Runout	Study Design	Miskovic	Greg Stewart (CMER)	UPSAG	Dec-21
Hard Rock Phase II	Policy Six questions document	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Aug-21
Soft Rock Extended Monitoring	Final Report Amendment	Munes	Bill Ehinger (DOE)	RSAG	Dec-21