

# Timber, Fish and Wildlife Policy Committee

Thursday, March 2, 2023 // 9:00AM – 2:20PM

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)
<p><b>February 2023 Meeting Notes</b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Ken Miller moved to approve the February 2023 minutes.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Darin Cramer</p> <p><b>Up:</b> Ken Miller, Darin Cramer, Tom O'Brien, Brandon Austin, Marc Engel, Cody Thomas, Alec Brown, Kendra Smith (Proxy for Court Stanley)</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Jim Peters</p>
<p><b>Wetlands/WMZ Charter Update and Timber Harvest Rotation Discussion</b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Tom O'Brien moved to approve sending Policy comments on the WMZ Charter back to CMER for revisions.</p> <p><b><u>Friendly Amendment:</u></b> Approve sending Policy comments on the WMZ Charter back to CMER for review and response of every comment whether it will be part of the charter or scoping. Then sending it back to Policy for approval.</p> <p>Tom O'Brien and Darin Cramer accepted friendly amendment.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Darin Cramer</p> <p><b>Up:</b> Ken Miller, Darin Cramer, Tom O'Brien, Marc Engel, Kendra Smith (Proxy for Court Stanley), Alec Brown, and Cody Thomas.</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Jim Peters</p>
<p><b>Eastside Forest Health Strategy</b></p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Tom O'Brien</p>

<p><b><u>Motion:</u></b></p> <p>Cody Thomas moved to approve the Eastside Forest Health Strategy Document to be CMER for inclusion into the CMER work plan as a strategy to inform studies developed on the Eastside.</p> <p><b>Friendly Amendment:</b></p> <p>Move to approve the Eastside Forest Health Strategy document without appendix A and B to be sent to CMER to inform full strategy development and eventual scoping of studies.</p> <p>Cody Thomas and Tom O’Brien accepted friendly amendment.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p><b>Up:</b> Ken Miller, Marc Engel, Kendra Smith (Proxy for Court Stanley), Darin Cramer, Tom O’Brien, Cody Thomas, and Alec Brown.</p> <p><b>Down:</b></p> <p><b>Abstain:</b></p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Jim Peters</p>
<p><b>Extensive Monitoring</b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b></p> <p>Tom O’Brien moved to approve the following question to be sent to CMER: “How does the application of forest practice rules effect riparian functions over time and across the landscape?”</p> <p><b>Friendly Amendment:</b></p> <p>Tom O’Brien moved to approve the following question to be sent to CMER: “How does the application of forest practice rules affect riparian functions over time and on lands subject to the forest practices rules?”</p> <p>Tom O’Brien and Darin Cramer accepted friendly amendment.</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Darin Cramer</p> <p><b>Up:</b> Ken Miller, Marc Engel, Kendra Smith (Proxy for Court Stanley), Darin Cramer, Tom O’Brien, Cody Thomas, and Alec Brown.</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Jim Peters</p>

**Friendly Amendment:**

Tom O'Brien moved to approve the following question to be sent to CMER: "How is the application of forest practice rules associated with riparian functions over time and on lands subject to the forest practices rules?"

Tom O'Brien and Darin Cramer accepted friendly amendment.

**Friendly Amendment:**

Move to request CMER Develop options for a monitoring program to help determine how riparian functions have changed or are changing in association with the application of the forest practice rules.

Tom O'Brien and Darin Cramer accepted friendly amendment.

**Friendly Amendment:**

Move to request CMER Develop options for a monitoring program to help determine how stream temperature and riparian functions have changed or are changing in association with the application of the forest practice rules.

Tom O'Brien and Darin Cramer accepted friendly amendment.

The motion passed

<p><b>RCS – Eastside Tribes Memo</b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b></p> <p>Marc Engel moved to table the Eastside RCS discussion no later than September 2023 when the project’s PI has returned from leave.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Cody Thomas</p> <p><b>Up:</b> Ken Miller, Marc Engel, Kendra Smith (Proxy for Court Stanley), Darin Cramer, Darric Lowery (Proxy for Tom O’Brien), Cody Thomas, and Alec Brown.</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Jim Peters</p>
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Action Items	
Action Items	Responsibility
Coordinating September ENREP site visit with CMER and TFW Policy meetings.	Joint co-chair/AMP Staff
Send out Board Manual 22 SAO Recommendations edits PowerPoint.	Natalie Church
Meet to discuss the RCS – Eastside Tribes	Cody Thomas, Darin Cramer, and Ken Miller
RCS ISPR additional question to be addressed at Policy meeting when Rachel returns	
Experimental Alternative Harvest Prescriptions	April agenda
MPS	April agenda

**Co-chair update:**

- Court Stanley will not attend this meeting.
- The Co-chairs and AMP Staff have decided that if there is extra time at the end of the TFW Policy meetings the Policy workgroups will use this time for workgroup meetings, as needed.
- Bradon Austin read the below ground rules:
  - Participants commit to search for opportunities to solve problems collaboratively.
  - Participants commit to listen carefully, ask questions to understand, and make statements to explain or educate.

**Caucus Updates:**

- Ken Miller explained that Dave Roberts has officially started and there will be some overlap until Ken steps down.

**Staff Updates:**

- Lori Clark gave the below updates:
  - CMER Conference has been confirmed to be on May 11, 2023, in Olympia at the Auditorium in the DSHS building next to the NRB.
  - The MPS will be on next month's agenda as an action item as it needs to be presented to the Forest Practices Board in May.
  - There will be an ENREP site visit in September. A specific date has not been decided but it will be close to the September CMER meeting.
  - Lori shared that she is working with a consultant to enhance/refine the current logo. A few logo mock-ups will be shared with CMER and Policy as soon as available.

**CMER Updates:**

Jenny Knoth reviewed the CMER SAG Updates document and what was discussed at last month's CMER meeting. There was discussion on how to help communication between CMER and TFW Policy. CMER would like more clear guidance from TFW Policy.

**Public Comments:**

Dear TFW Policy,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the data gathering processes you employ and the subsequent use of this data to make political decisions. It is my belief that the data you collect has such wide error margins that any use of this data requires significant political assumptions, which ultimately delays the necessary political discussions that should be taking place.

While data gathering is an important process, I believe it should not be used as a shield to avoid making difficult political decisions. It is essential that we engage in open and transparent discussions about the policies and their implications on the communities and industries they affect.

I urge you to take a more proactive approach in engaging with stakeholders to understand the real-world implications of the policies you propose. Rather than hiding behind data gathering, it is essential that you engage in meaningful discussions with affected communities, industries, and stakeholders to ensure that the policies you propose are fair, balanced, and equitable.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to seeing meaningful engagement with stakeholders in your policy-making processes.

Sincerely,

Robert Mitchell

**Wetlands/WMZ Charter Update and Timber Harvest Rotation Discussion:**

Lori Clark explained what the Wetlands Workgroup discussed and decided on at their last meeting. Need direction that we have Policy consensus to work on the comments in the charter. The Policy Subcommittee met and agreed on comments but to ensure we are following approval process; it would be advisable for all of Policy to approve the comments in the charter and demonstrate Policy consensus. Some of the comments on the WMZ charter were resolved, but the comments left on the document are ones that the workgroup would like CMER/WetSAG to address. It was discussed that there was some confusion on why there is language that was stricken-out in the Purpose Statement. Alexander Prescott explained that the stricken-out language in the Purpose Statement is because it was not the exact WAC language. Lori explained the process that charters do not stop the project from being implemented. It was suggested to create a CMER/TFW Policy workgroup, but it was decided that it was not necessary at this time. Tanner Williamson explained that the Project Team needs Policy to decide on timber harvest rotation as it impacts the length of the project and the definition of the midpoint. The challenge for the technical side of the project is that the WAC language is too vague. It was decided to send the charter to CMER/WetSAG to address the comments.

**Eastside Forest Health Strategy:**

Brandon Austin gave a brief description of the document that was sent out in the mailing and explained that this is a decision item. Ken Miller explained that SFL do have issues with the project and will not be able to support this moving forward. Cody Thomas explained that this document had a consensus vote in April 2022 and asked the reasoning behind SFL caucus bring up the concerns now. Ken reviewed SFL caucus concerns with the document, specifically the questions in Appendix A and B. Cody explained that the sub-questions in Appendix A and B were created and approved by CMER. Darin Cramer explained that the sub-questions are not study questions they are there to inform scoping. He offered to meet with Elaine to discuss the questions and the document. Cody would like to vote on this today and move forward from there and would like to have SFL’s concerns documented. A motion was presented and there was time for a caucus discussion then it was approved to have the Eastside Forest Health Strategy document without appendix A and B to be sent to CMER to inform full strategy development and eventual scoping of studies.

There was conversation about the work that DNR is doing around assessment of eastside forest health. Jen Watkins or Chuck Hersey could present to CMER/SAGE on the 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan: Central and Eastern Washington.

**Extensive Monitoring:**

Cody explained that he feels like CMER is asking too much from Policy. He suggested that Policy send a question or statement to CMER and then trust what Policy receives from CMER. Lori shared that RSAG was hoping for more feedback from Policy, specifically RSAG wanted the answers to the questions in the memo and/or documentation from the discussion at the Extensive Monitoring workshop.

**RCS – Eastside Tribes Memo:**

Brandon asked for a motion. Darin Cramer explained that Policy was asking for a technical review not what was received. Cody said that he agrees that we didn’t receive rigorous technical response but, we did get a response about the fish and non-fish streams. Lori explained that this could be tabled until Rachel Rubin, the PI of the project, gets back from parental leave in July. This project is currently in the planning phase for implementation on the Westside so it will not affect the study at this time. A motion to table this discussion until the PI returns from leave.

**Board Manual 22 Edits:**

Tracy Hawkins gave a presentation on the Board Manual 22 SAO Recommendations edits. There was discussion on minor edits to the wording of the draft language presented. Natalie Church will send out PowerPoint Presentation to TFW Policy.

**List of Attendees**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representing</b>
§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
§Thomas, Cody	Eastside Tribe Caucus/UCUT
Church, Natalie	Administrative Assistant/DNR
Clark, Lori	Adaptive Management Administrator

Hawkins, Tracy	DNR
Heimburg, John	WDFW
Hooks, Doug	WFPA
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)
Mitchell, Robert	Member of Public
McIntyre, Aimee	WDFW/CMER Voting Member
Murray, Joe	RSAG Co-chair
Prescott, Alexander	DNR Project Manager
Roberts, Dave	Small Forest Landowner/WFFA
Schofield, Jenny	Project Manager/DNR
Smith, Kendra	Skagit (Proxy for Court Stanley)
Toledo, Anna	DNR Project Manager
Walter, Jason	Weyerhaeuser
Williamson, Tanner	CMER Staff
Zirkle, Karen	DNR

§TFW Policy Voting Member