



## **A. General CMER Ground Rules**

1. Each of the participants affirmed by the Board to CMER agree to these ground rules, which were developed collectively by CMER to ensure that CMER produces credible scientific results that have a broad base of support. These ground rules are specific to CMER and do not apply to any other portion of the Adaptive Management Program.

2. CMER core values are predicated upon the agreement of each CMER participant that adaptive management is based upon sound science. It is the responsibility of every participant to follow sound scientific principles and procedures.

3. Participants will also adhere to the purpose of the Adaptive Management Program:  
... to provide science-based recommendations and technical information to assist the board in determining if and when it is necessary or advisable to adjust rules and guidance for aquatic resources to achieve resource goals and objectives. The goal of the program is to affect change when it is necessary or advisable to adjust rules and guidance to achieve the goals of the forests and fish report or other goals identified by the board. (WAC 222-12-045(1)).

4. Individual Policy positions are not the basis for CMER decisions, otherwise the credibility of CMER research can be questioned, resulting in CMER having failed in its function of providing accountable results to the Adaptive Management Program.

## **B. Specific CMER Ground Rules**

1. CMER participants will engage in actions that promote productive meetings and will encourage the active participation of each individual member. Examples of these actions are:

- a. Speak to educate, listen to understand.
- b. Pursue win/win solutions.
- c. State motivations and justifications clearly. Discuss issues openly with all concerns on the table. Avoid hidden agendas.
- d. Ensure that each individual has a chance to be heard.
- e. Help others move tangent issues to appropriate venues by scheduling a time to discuss these issues later.
- f. Start and stop meetings on time.
- g. Take side conversations outside—listen respectfully.
- h. Define clear outcomes for each conversation and appoint a conversation manager.
- i. Be trusting and trustworthy.
- j. Acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of others, even when you disagree.

2. CMER participants agree to spend the time in preparation for meetings so that their participation is both meaningful and relevant and to refrain from participation when they are unprepared.

3. CMER participants agree to participate in the Adaptive Management Program's scientific dispute resolution process when consensus cannot be reached and to make a good faith effort to resolve the dispute.

4. CMER participants recognize that information and results are preliminary until the final report is approved by CMER. Products must be clearly labeled and presented as DRAFT until approved by CMER as a final product.

5. At no time shall any potential contractor for a project be involved in the drafting of an RFP, RFQ or SOW or in the selection of a contractor for that specific project.