

## CMER April 28, 2020

### List of Attendees

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representing</b>
§Baldwin, Todd	Kalispel Tribe of Indians
§Bell, Harry	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Black, Jenelle	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
chesney, charles	Member of Public
§Dieu, Julie	Rayonier
Ehinger, William	Department of Ecology
Gibbs, Heather	Department of Natural Resources
Flint, Ben	Department of Natural Resources
Hicks, Mark	Department of Natural Resources – AMPA
Hooks, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
Hough-Snee, Nate	Four Peaks Environmental Science & Data Solutions
§Kay, Debbie	Suquamish Tribe
Knoth, Jenny	Washington Farm Forestry Association
§Kroll, A.J.	Weyerhaeuser
Kunz, Nick	Private Consultant
§Lizon, Patrick	Department of Ecology
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus – CMER Co-Chair
Miskovic, Teresa	Department of Natural Resources
§Mobbs, Mark	Quinalt Indian Nation
Murray, Joe	Washington Forest Protection Association
Munes, Eszter	Washington Department of Natural Resources
§Ojala-Barbour, Reed	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Roorbach, Ash	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Swanson, Scott	Washington State Association of Counties
Stewart, Greg	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Thomas, Cody	Spokane Tribe of Indians
Volke, Malia	Department of Natural Resources
Walters, Jason	Weyerhaeuser

§Indicates official CMER members and alternates; this meeting was held remotely.

## Motions/Action Items

Motions April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	
Motion	Move/Second (Vote)
Approve the FWEP (Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project) answers to the CMER Six Questions document.	Chris Mendoza/Harry Bell (all thumbs up)
Approve the CMER February 2020 meeting minutes with inclusion of edits made by Aimee McIntyre, as well as edits do CMER decisions in the section regarding ISPR review in the Protocol and Standard Manual (PSM) chapter 8.	Chris Mendoza/ Debbie Kay (all thumbs up)
Approve the Water Typing Strategy Document from ISAG with modifications (double arrows on the 3 boxes on the bottom of Figure 1) in response to the Board motion to CMER.	Debbie Kay/Harry Bell (Up: Julie Dieu, Doug Martin, Harry Bell, Debbie Kay, A.J. Kroll, Patrick Lizon; Sideways: Reed Ojala-Barbour, Todd Baldwin)
Accept the Extensive Riparian Model Transferability Project answers to the CMERs Six Questions document.	Harry Bell/Chris Mendoza (Up: Todd Baldwin, Reed Ojala-Barbour, Debbie Kay, Julie Dieu, Harry Bell, Doug Martin, A.J. Kroll; Sideways: Patrick Lizon)
Approve the Eastside Timber Habitat Effectiveness Project (ETHEP) Charter	Todd Baldwin/ Julie Dieu (Up: Debbie Kay, Patrick Lizon, Harry Bell, Doug Martin, Todd Baldwin, Julie Dieu; sideways: Reed Ojala-Barbour, A.J. Kroll)

Action Items April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	
Action	Responsibility
Julie Dieu and Jenny Knoth will review the FWEP Literature Review report. Comments are due back by May 19 <sup>th</sup> .	Julie Dieu, Jenny Knoth
Due to the failure to pass two separate motions directing the eDNA pilot report, one which would create a “lesson learned” document and accept the current version of the report with CMER/ISAG comments attached, the other which would advance the eDNA report back to the author, the dispute resolution process was invoked. According to CMER’s Guided Decision Making process for Dispute Resolution, the next step is for the appropriate parties to meet with Mark Hicks within 30 days to attempt to resolve the issue.	Chris Mendoza, Mark Hicks, A.J. Kroll, Doug Martin

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A small group consisting of Chris Mendoza, Heather Gibbs, Ben Flint, Joe Murray, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay will work on a draft streamlining the CMER Workplan to make it more useful and efficient for CMER, Policy and the Board to reference.

Chris Mendoza, Heather Gibbs, Ben Flint, Joe Murray, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay

## **Minutes**

### **Introductions**

Chris Mendoza, co-chair, began by reviewing the remote meeting guidelines. After Jacob Hibbeln, AMP Administrative Assistant, went through roll call, the meeting began.

### **WETSAG**

#### **Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Literature Project (FWEP) Literature Review Presentation**

*Nate Hough-Snee*

Nate Hough Snee, Four Peaks Environmental, gave a presentation on the FWEP Literature Review, breaking down how sources were selected. The main point of this presentation was to highlight the fact that there are not a lot of studies to work with and that there is a high diversity when it comes to Forested Wetlands in the state. Caucus members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

#### **FWEP Literature Review Document/Database – 30 day review**

*Eszter Munes, Nate Hough-Snee*

Eszter Munes, DNR Project Manager, stated that the plan is to present this to Policy in June or July and requested reviewers for the document and database package. Jenny Knoth, WFFA, and Julie Dieu, Rayonier, volunteered to be reviewers.

Mendoza stated that two reviewers is fine since nobody else volunteered. The CMER mailing went out Wednesday, April 22, and the hope is to get this approved at the May CMER meeting. The review is due by May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Action Item #1 was confirmed.

#### **FWEP Prospective Six Questions - Approval**

*Eszter Munes, Nate Hough-Snee*

Munes began by stating that the project team is resubmitting the document for approval in response to comments made by CMER members. The primary change is that the edited version more clearly distinguishes between chronosequence and the BACI study. After Munes reviewed the main changes, Hough-Snee stated that this can be used as an example for SAGs in the future so there can be an example of what a prospective six questions document might look like.

Motion #1 was made and passed.

## **CMER**

### **February 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes**

*Chris Mendoza*

After going through edits to the sections on PSM Chapter 8 and some minor changes to membership information, Motion #2 was approved.

## **ISAG**

### **eDNA Pilot Final Report**

*Eszter Munes, Jason Walters*

Comments were submitted by AJ Kroll, Weyerhaeuser, and Todd Baldwin, Kalispell Tribe. Most of the comments came down to the use of sites from Oregon. ISAG is seeking approval for the pilot which would be sent to Brooke Penaluna, PI for revisions. . The hope today is to reconcile some of the comments which came from ISAG and CMER.

Jason Walters, Weyerhaeuser, asked if ISAG should put together a lessons learned document or if funds should be used by asking the author to resolve the comments. Doug Martin, WFPA, stated that he would like to send the document with all the comments back to the author. Mark Hicks, AMPA, responded that he has not yet reached out to the author yet. Before the author is contacted, CMER and ISAG should clarify their expectations. Ideally, comments would reflect a unified voice with only a few outstanding comments. Although money was already approved at the February meeting, the question was raised of how this \$5500 could otherwise be spent. Normally, spending this amount of money would not be a big deal but in light of the recent budget changes it's important to carefully prioritize where the money is going.

Martin clarified that he is not asking for a rewrite. He would like the author to respond to the comments made. Walters stated that he might be able to work with the author to resolve a select few comments.

Mendoza recapped the conversation thus far, restating the possibility of moving forward with a lessons learned document created by ISAG. There would have to be an approval process if such a document were to be created. Walters stated that he and Munes could change comments that are written as text revisions to comment boxes in the margins. An updated document could be produced by next month and a lessons learned document would be completed in June.

Mendoza motioned for Walters to work with Munes to take edits and convert them into a comment format, which was seconded by Bell. Kroll thought that a vote should not be held until all documents are ready.

Jenelle Black, NWIFC, and Hicks expressed that it is not appropriate to change the draft and not notify the author. There needs to be an addendum explaining why CMER is not accepting the document. To this, Mendoza proposed drafting a cover letter explaining why certain changes were made.

After much discussion, Doug Hooks, WFPA, reminded CMER that there was still a motion on the table and that there either needs to be a vote or the motion would need to be withdrawn. Mendoza withdrew his motion and Bell withdrew his second.

Martin motioned to request that the author to respond to the comments to the extent that it is feasible, with the caveat being there is not enough funding to do this. The hope is to only send the author comments that are deemed critical.

Martin stated that this would be the last request for a final look and that he believes the author should be given a chance to respond to the comments. Martin stated that it would be unprofessional to make the review public before letting the author address comments made by CMER and ISAG.

After having a discussion about color coding comments according to level of contention. There was debate over what comments should be sent to the author.

Mendoza made a motion to send the document back to the author with a lessons learned document and cover letter, seconded by Todd Baldwin. This motion did not pass due to a down vote by Kroll. Kroll viewed this as repetitive and would not like to send the report back to the author. The next step is to move forward with a dispute resolution process. This would involve Hicks meeting with the appropriate parties.

After conversation about what the proper process is, Mendoza state that having the author do a final review is part of the original contract. Although this would mean opening up a new contract with the author, this money was already approved by CMER at the February meeting.

After not reaching agreement, it was decided that the next step is to go into a guided dispute resolution process. Hicks will meet with the appropriate parties (all CMER members that voted up or down)) to discuss how to resolve this.

### **Water Typing Memo to Board**

*Munes and Walters*

Munes began by reviewing the motion made by the Forest Practices Board at the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. After reviewing the finer points of the document including the process, recommendations, and justifications for each one, she opened up the floor for questions.

Hicks expressed that he's not sure if the FPB will be satisfied with what was produced and also noted that this is not on the FPB May agenda. The least that can be done is delivering something in writing to the Board.

Motion #3 was made. The motion passed with condition of using double arrows on the bottom three boxes of the conceptual diagram.

### **RSAG**

#### **Answers to 6 questions for Extensive Riparian Transferability Report**

*Miskovic and Murray*

Joe Murray, WFPA, began by clarifying that this is a work in progress and more things need to be investigated. There is much more opportunity to explore extensive monitoring. After the floor was opened up for comments, Bell made motion #4 which was seconded by Chris Mendoza. Before it was voted on, Murray explained that Policy has looked at the report as well as the 6 questions and were supposed to develop a list of priorities for what they wanted discussed at the workshop. However, this has been put on hold due to new budget constraints. For this reason, this is less information. Motion #4 was passed.

## **Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project (ETHEP) Charter**

*Miskovic*

This charter was approved by SAGE in April. After Teresa Miskovic, DNR Project Manager, gave a brief overview of the main sections of the charter, Baldwin explained that the document is fluid and that there is no approved scoping document yet.

Bell expressed the need to move this forward because forests on the eastern part of the state provide different functions and therefore should not be managed by the same systems used in Western Washington.

Motion #5 was made. Charter approved.

## **CMER Workplan**

*Mendoza*

Mendoza began by stating that the purpose of this discussion is to establish a workgroup which will work on making the CMER Work plan more user friendly. At this meeting, the point is not to hash out any changes. After asking for volunteers, it was decided that Mendoza, Heather Gibbs, DNR Project Manager, Ben Flint, DNR Project Manager, Murray, Dieu and Kay would be on the workgroup. This group will begin meeting in approximately one month.

## **Extended Monitoring Guidance Discussion**

*Mendoza*

Mendoza began by describing the history of the workgroup and explained that CMER had approved the memo and appendix but not the form. What was left was a process for outlining when extended monitoring should be used.

Gibbs took this opportunity to state that the Hard Rock is the first pilot project using Extended Monitoring and reminded CMER that comments on the Hard Rock 6 questions document are due by May 1, 2020. The hope is to get this document approved at the May CMER meeting.

## **AMP Budget Updates**

*Hicks*

Hicks went over the main budget cuts affecting the AMP and what happened with the Legislature. In total, there is a 1.9 million dollar cut shortcut. He announced that a TFW Policy meeting will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 2:30 pm at which a budget will be voted on. If Policy does not agree on a budget, the FPB will have to choose.

## **CMER SAG Updates**

*Mendoza*

Mendoza went through the finer points of the CMER SAG updates, reminding everyone that the point of the document is to keep CMER aware of what is happening at the SAG level. CMER approved the SAG Project Updates.

Hicks commented that the updates are very helpful in that they create an easily accessible historical reference for several projects. This is useful not only for CMER and Policy but also for outside stakeholders.

### **Co-chair replacement for Doug Hooks**

*Hicks*

Hicks announced that Jenny Knoth, WFFA, will likely be stepping in as the new co-chair now that she is serving for the SFLO Caucus.

### **ENREP LiDAR Summary Sheet**

*Miskovic*

Miskovic explained that this is a proposal to acquire LiDAR for ENREP and that this was part of the plan to use unspent funds left from FY19. After going through the main points of the document, she stated that State Parks has some land around the ENREP sites and therefore might be willing to contribute some money to compensate for the recent budget cuts. The time constraint for ENREP is that the LiDAR would need to be acquired by summer or fall due to tree harvest.

Hicks made it clear that no work should be stopped based solely on the recent budget constraints.

### **ENREP Project Update**

*Miskovic*

Miskovic referenced the memo that was sent out to CMER and state that the project team is currently looking for new project pairs. She then went over the data collection in basin pairs which is covered in the document sent out.

### **RCS Study Updates**

*Miskovic*

Miskovic explained that the project team is proceeding with Alternative 1 as approved by Policy due to the fact that Alternative 2 is not cost efficient. A workgroup was formed and Malia Volke, Eastside CMER Scientist, is working with the group as the Project Investigator (PI).

### **Roads Prescription Project Update**

Flint gave a detailed update of the current situation of the Roads Prescription and how it was affected by covid-19. Generally speaking, the updates were positive. Flint explained how contract and experimentation work was affected by Covid-19 and how this fits into the newly reduced budget. Although a new public works contract will not be signed this spring, maintenance tasks will be carried out this fall. Data collection for the parameterization experiments will be pushed out until spring 2021 due to the inability to do tests this rainy season due to covid-19 and from the current budget shortfall.

### **Public Comment**

Charles Chesney stated that he would like the project team for the Roads Prescription Project listed in the February meeting minutes.