

Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Committee

Tuesday, August 22, 2023 // 9:00AM – 4:00PM

Virtual: Zoom

Motions	
Motion	Move/Second (Vote)
<p>July 2023 Meeting Minutes</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Debbie Kay moved to approve the July 2023 minutes.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: A.J. Kroll</p> <p>Up: Harry Bell, Hans Berge, Welles Bretherton, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay, Jenny Knoth, A.J. Kroll, Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin), Aimee McIntyre, Mark Meleason, Chris Mendoza, and Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs).</p>
<p>Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP) Project Team – Adding a member</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Mark Meleason moved to accept Welles Bretherton to the ENREP project team.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: Debbie Kay</p> <p>Up: Harry Bell, Hans Berge, Welles Bretherton, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay, Jenny Knoth, A.J. Kroll, Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin), Aimee McIntyre, Mark Meleason, Chris Mendoza, and Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs).</p>
<p>Schedule L-1 Review and Revision Process Recommendation Memo</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs) moved to advance CMER's comments on the July 13th memo to the L-1 workgroup recognizing they are not consensus comments but have been clarified to the extent possible.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: A.J. Kroll</p> <p>Up: Harry Bell, Welles Bretherton, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay, Jenny Knoth, A.J. Kroll, Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin), Aimee McIntyre, Mark Meleason, Chris Mendoza, and Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs).</p> <p>Abstain: Jenny Knoth (workgroup member)</p> <p>Absent: Hans Berge</p>
<p>Protocols and Standards Manual (PSM) Sections 1-3</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Jenny Knoth moved to table the vote on the PSM 1 thru 3 until members have had time to view the track changes in the SharePoint.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: Chris Mendoza</p> <p>Up: Harry Bell, Hans Berge, Welles Bretherton, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay, Jenny Knoth, A.J. Kroll, Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin), Aimee McIntyre, Mark Meleason, Chris Mendoza, and Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs).</p>

<p>Riparian Characteristics and Shade (RCS) Prospective 6 Questions</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Julie Dieu moved to approve the RCS 6-questions document.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin)</p> <p>Up: Harry Bell, Hans Berge, Welles Bretherton, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay, Jenny Knoth, A.J. Kroll, Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin), Aimee McIntyre, Mark Meleason, Chris Mendoza, and Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs).</p>
<p>Deep-Seated Landslide Strategy - Landslide Mapping and Classification Project (4.5 and 4.6) Study Design</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Chris Mendoza moved to postpone approval of the BGC study design pending a meeting with CMER reviewers who determined their comments were not adequately addressed and the project team.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: Hans Berge</p> <p>Up: Harry Bell, Hans Berge, Welles Bretherton, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay, Jenny Knoth, A.J. Kroll, Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin), Aimee McIntyre, Mark Meleason, Chris Mendoza, and Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs).</p>
<p>Deep-Seated Landslide Strategy – Landslide Mapping and Classification Project (4.5 and 4.6) Study Design send to ISPR</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> ****</p> <p>The motion passed/failed</p> <p>MOVED TO NEXT MONTH</p>	<p>Seconded:</p> <p>Up:</p> <p>Down:</p> <p>Abstain:</p> <p>Absent:</p>
<p>Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF) Proposal Initiation</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> A.J. Kroll moved to assign the Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF) to ISAG.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: Welles Bretherton</p> <p>Up: Harry Bell, Hans Berge, Welles Bretherton, Julie Dieu, Debbie Kay, Jenny Knoth, A.J. Kroll, Joe Murray (Proxy for Doug Martin), Aimee McIntyre, Mark Meleason, Chris Mendoza, and Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Mark Mobbs).</p>

Action Items	
Action Items	Responsibility
Send out LiDAR Differencing PowerPoint presentation	Natalie Church

Send CMER Prioritization Excel spreadsheet to SAG co-chairs before upcoming September SAG meetings.	Lori Clark
Review PSM Sections 4 and 5 by September 12, 2023. PSM Chapters 4 and 5 revisions 08 22 23 DUE 09 12 23.docx	CMER members
Review PSM Sections 4 and 5 comments/edits	September agenda
PSM Sections 1-3 Decision item	September agenda
Schedule Deep-Seated Landslide Strategy project team meeting with CMER Reviewers to address specific comments	Theryn Henkel
If you have not RSVP'd for the ENREP field trip let Anna Toledo and/or Natalie Church know if you plan on attending by 4:00PM on Friday, August 25 th .	CMER

Welcome, Introductions, & Old Business

Aimee McIntyre, CMER co-chair

Ground Rules:

- Be on time. -Mark Meleason
- Stay on topic. -A.J. Kroll

Staff Updates:

Lori Clark shared that WA State Dept. of Ecology sent an email requesting to coordinate a letter of support for the Modernized Stream Mapping Decision Package. She provided a template that you can work from to make specific to your organizations. DNR will be submitting a letter, including AMP. If you would like to provide a support letter, they are requesting it by September 1st.

Public Comments:

As an engaged member of the public, I am deeply concerned to learn that electrofishing has been integrated into the charters of the Potential Habitat Break (PHB) and Default Physical Criteria (DPC) programs. The utilization of such an intrusive method raises questions about the ethics of scientific research. It is imperative to consider the potential unintended consequences of employing techniques that involve invasive monitoring stations and electrofishing, which can have detrimental impacts on wildlife and ecosystems. I urge you to reconsider the allocation of taxpayer funds towards practices that may harm fish and the environment under the pretext of scientific advancement. Let us prioritize environmentally conscious approaches that ensure the preservation of our natural resources.

Robert Mitchell
Olympia, WA

TFW Policy Updates:

Brandon Austin gave an update on what was discussed at the August 2023 Timber Fish and Wildlife (TFW) Policy Committee meeting.

Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP) Project Team - Adding a member

Anna Toledo explained that the request is to add Welles Bretherton to the ENREP project team. There was discussion on the reason for bringing this to CMER if SAGE already approved adding Welles to the project team. Anna explained that it is to help with program transparency and explained that it is also listed in the PSM as something that needs to be approved by CMER. PSM 7.2.4 "The SAG will forward to CMER proposed Team Members for approval." Lori explained that it is also a way to acknowledge who is working on the project.

SharePoint Online File Structure:

Alexander Prescott shared his screen and reviewed the CMER and SAG file structure on SharePoint Online, how to bookmark the home page, and explained the CMER review folder. There was discussion on group editing difficulties, it was decided that the CMER co-chairs and AMPA will discuss group editing and what we can do to help with the confusion and difficulties. If you encounter any SPO difficulties, please reach out to Alexander and/or the relevant Project Manager.

LiDAR Differencing Demonstration:

Matt Lato from BGC Engineering gave a presentation on LiDAR Differencing. Natalie Church will send out the PowerPoint Presentation to CMER.

CMER Prioritization Introduction:

At the June CMER meeting it was mentioned that the SAGs should begin working on project prioritization and then in August Lori committed to working with the CMER co-chairs on providing guidance to SAG co-chairs on the prioritization task for the CMER meeting. Natalie sent out a late mailing with a draft CMER prioritization document for CMER's input. The goal of the document is to provide guidance to the SAGs. After CMER's feedback is collected, the document will be revised, and the AMP staff will work on an excel sheet with the projects populated for the SAGs so that we will receive consistent information in a consistent format. Lori explained that the budget is not part of what is being asked today, it is just the prioritization of projects. If there are any additional questions while working on this reach out to AMPA or CMER co-chairs.

Schedule L-1 Review and Revision Process Recommendation Memo:

Lori Clark gave an overview of the Schedule L-1 memo. Schedule L-1 is the foundation of the AMP and guides the development of CMER projects. The State Auditor's Office (SAO) recommendations included adopting a decision criterion for determining actions that will occur as a project is scoped. To inform the decision criteria the AMP is revising the Schedule L-1 which contains the Resource Objectives, Functional Objectives, and the Performance Targets intended to be met as part of the FP HCP. The Schedule L-1 process memo includes the introduction, a brief background on how the committee was selected, and the process recommended for the revisions of Schedule L-1. CMER reviewed the memo July 25-August 8th. For the August CMER meeting, CMER is tasked with approving which comments to send to the Schedule L-1 workgroup. Should CMER have any suggested edits in response to the comments, they may send those, but it is not required. The main goal is to make sure that there is CMER consensus on forwarding along whatever comments or edits that are in the document. If no consensus, we will delete the comment. The Schedule L-1 workgroup CMER representatives are Chris Mendoza, Jenny Knoth, and Ash Roorbach. The Schedule L-1 workgroup is meeting on August 30th to consider feedback from Policy, Policy SAO workgroup, and CMER. A final memo will be shared at upcoming CMER and Policy meetings. Theryn Henkel shared her screen as CMER reviewed each comment.

Protocols and Standards Manual (PSM) Sections 1-3:

CMER reviewed PSM Chapters 1-3, including Introduction, Overview, History, and Context and CMER Organization. These chapters were in the CMER packet last month but some of the edits and comments

were not yet incorporated. Lori made revisions based on the suggested edits and comments and the final Chapters are up for approval today. It was decided that because the track changes were not sent out the vote will be moved to next month's CMER meeting. Theryn Henkel explained that Sections 4 and 5 are in the CMER review folder on SharePoint and explained that the sections need to be reviewed by September 12, 2023. [PSM Chapters 4 and 5 revisions 08 22 23 DUE 09 12 23.docx](#)

Riparian Characteristics and Shade (RCS) Prospective 6 Questions:

Anna Toledo gave a brief background of what was discussed at the RCS Prospective 6 Questions special meeting and explained that the request is to get approval of the revised document. Chris Mendoza asked to give a reminder to TFW Policy when it is being presented to them that Policy resolved the dispute over the buffer treatments with the decision to not include the 25 ft. buffer treatment in the RCS study.

Problem Statement within Project Charters:

Aimee McIntyre gave a brief background and explained that at last month's CMER meeting Ash Roorbach mentioned that problem statements in Project Charters have not been consistent. Aimee referenced PSM Section 7.4.4 and gave a brief explanation of what is to be included in the problem statement. Ash Roorbach referenced "If the project being launched is in response to TFW Policy guidance for CMER to answer specific questions or address/inform a general topic or issue, either use the problem statement provided by TFW Policy or other available policy guidance to help generate a draft problem statement." He explained that his question is "what we are doing and why we are doing it?" Theryn Henkel explained that as Project Managers they have decided to commit to using the templates and the PSM instead of pulling information from previous charters. Ash mentioned that this is probably a Policy issue, and they need to a definitive decision instead of moving it to CMER to have us figure it out. Aimee explained that this is something that we can discuss more when we get to that section of the PSM.

Deep-Seated Landslide Strategy - Landslide Mapping and Classification Project (4.5 and 4.6) Study Design:

Theryn Henkel explained that the CMER's review period was from April to May and the project team addressed the comments. The study design is up for approval today. Chris Mendoza explained that he feels it is important to highlight the reasons why the study design did not follow the scoping document exactly. He explained that he is concerned that TFW Policy will have an issue with this. He proposes to move this to next month's CMER meeting and to have a meeting between now and then with the CMER reviewers and the project team to discuss the reasons why. Julie Dieu explained that the change to the executive summary is to explain the reasoning why. The scoping says that a product will be classification and the study design also has classification as a product but approaching it in a different way. It also is listed in the study design that the project team will have regular meetings with BGC to make sure that they are continuing in the correct way. Lori Clark explained that UPSAG did give a presentation and had a discussion with TFW Policy explaining and giving a heads up about this change. It was decided that the next step is to have the project team meet with the CMER Reviewers to address specific comments.

Deep-Seated Landslide Strategy - Landslide Mapping and Classification Project (4.5 and 4.6) Study Design send to ISPR:

This is moved to next month because the Study Design was not approved.

Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF) Proposal Initiation:

The Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF) Validation Study Proposal Initiation (PI) and AMPA assessment were presented at the July 6, 2023, TFW Policy meeting and the AFF PI was approved at the August 3, 2023,

TFW Committee meeting. The motion that passed was to “approve the Anadromous Fish Floor Proposal Initiation with a recommendation to the FPB to approve adding the AFF Validation study into the CMER work plan and into the Master Project Schedule.” TFW Policy further moved to “clarify that this recommendation does not resolve policy differences on an AFF, and that approval of the PI allows CMER to begin the science effort”. Jason Walter mentioned that he would like to have AFF added to the Water Typing Strategy. Lori Clark suggested to have this as part of the Project Summary Sheets which will start the process. It was decided that this project would be assigned to ISAG. Concern was raised over Policy having unresolved issues. Lori shared that CMER has been given direction to begin the AFF study and Policy will continue to have discussions. Policy discussions will not change the direction as the Forest Practices Board has made the decision to include AFF in the water typing strategy. There was a discussion on the number of complex projects currently assigned to ISAG. It was decided that ISAG will have a discussion on how AFF will impact the water typing projects and let CMER know.

CMER SAG Updates:

Each SAG reviewed the CMER SAG updates document, which was updated live as needed.

List of Attendees

Attendees	Representing
§Bell, Harry	Washington Farm Forestry Association – Small Forest Landowners
§Berge, Hans	UCUT – Eastern Washington Tribes
§Bretherton, Welles	Department of Ecology
§Dieu, Julie	Rayonier
§Kay, Debbie	Suquamish Tribe
§Knoth, Jenny	Washington Farm Forestry Association
§Kroll, A.J.	CMER Co-Chair/ Large Forest Landowners
§Murray, Joe	WFPA (Proxy for Doug Martin)
§McIntyre, Aimee	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife/CMER Co-Chair
§Meleason, Mark	Counties Caucus
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus
§Roorbach, Ash	NWIFC (Proxy for Mark Mobbs)
Aikman, Nikki	Suquamish Tribe
Austin, Brandon	Department of Ecology - TFW Policy Co-chair
Black, Jenelle	CMER Scientist
Church, Natalie	DNR – CMER Coordinator
Clark, Lori	Adaptive Management Program Administrator
Fraizer, Julia	BGC Engineering
Freeman, Elise	NWIFC
Greenwood, Emma	Spokane Tribe
Hawkins, Tracy	DNR
Henkel, Theryn	DNR Supervisory Project Manager
Holy, Shae	Skokomish Tribe
Hooks, Doug	WFPA
Hsiao, Vicky	BGC Engineering
Lato, Matt	BGC Engineering
Prescott, Alexander	DNR Project Manager

Rubin, Rachel	CMER Scientist
Scheip, Corey	BGC Engineering
Schofield, Jenny	DNR Project Manager
Seixas, Gus	Skagit River System Coop.
Thomas, Cody	UCUT – TFW Policy Co-chair
Toledo, Anna	DNR Project Manager
W, Luke	BGC Engineering
Walter, Jason	Weyerhaeuser – ISAG Chair
Weekes, Anne	
Williamson, Tanner	NWIFC

§CMER Voting Member