

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee
April 27, 2010
DNR/DOC Compound – Tumwater**

Meeting Notes

| Attendees | Representing |
|-----------------------|--|
| Almond, Lyle (ph) | Makah Tribe |
| *Baldwin, Todd (v) | Kalispel Tribe, SAGE Co-Chair |
| Ehinger, Bill | DOE |
| *Hicks, Mark | DOE |
| Hotvedt, Jim | DNR/ Adaptive Management Program Administrator |
| Janisch, Jack | DOE |
| *Jackson, Terry | WDFW, CMER Co-Chair |
| Kurtenbach, Amy | DNR, Project Manager |
| *Lingley, Leslie | DNR |
| *Martin, Doug | WFPA |
| *McConnell, Steve (v) | UCUT |
| *Mendoza, Chris | Conservation Caucus Contractor, CMER Co-Chair |
| McIntyre, Aimee | WDFW |
| Miskovic, Teresa | DNR, Project Manager |
| *Miller, Dick | WFFA |
| Schuett-Hames, Dave | CMER Staff, NWIFC |
| *Sturhan, Nancy | NWIFC |
| Todd, Steve | Suquamish Tribe |

* Indicates official CMER members and alternates; ph indicates attended via phone & v indicates attended by video conferencing

Agenda

Todd Baldwin requested to add an update about the Tribal Industry Collaborative (TIC) to the agenda.

Amy Kurtenbach requested to add a Post-Mortem update to the agenda.

Science Session

CMER Co-chairs facilitated a brainstorming session on CMER tasks and future monthly, science session topics for 2010/ 2011.

Business Session

SAG /CMER Items

- LWAG/RSAG Request Type N Experimental Buffer Study in Basalt Lithologies
CMER Approved the Basin Substitution Request

Project Manager Teresa Miskovic presented the RSAG request.

Points of Discussion:

Nancy Sturhan suggested that the SAG request identify implications of decision changes made to the original study design. Policy should know if/how changes to the initial study design will change the final results. Co-chair Mendoza supported this suggestion.

Bill Ehinger will summarize all of the changes made to the initial study design and any decisions made potentially affecting the study sites.

Steve McConnell asked if there is going to be a record of the decisions made at the study sites and how they were managed. He was directed to the memo where this is recorded.

Action Item:

Dick Miller moved that CMER accept the recommendation. Co-chair Mendoza seconded this request with the condition that a summary document is completed. CMER approved this request.

- LWAG - Landscape genetic response of tailed frogs across the managed and unmanaged disturbance gradient created by the Mt. St. Helens eruption
Update on paper

Project Manager Teresa Miskovic provided an update that the principal investigator wanted to use some of the data collected in the CMER study that would be used for their own research and published.

Points of Discussion:

CMER discussed the process for using CMER funded data and how that process needs to be clarified to the contractor and reflected in the DNR contract.

The use of CMER data should be clarified. The lack of a process is a problem and should be placed on the CMER task list.

CMER suggested that a memo be written to the contractor informing them of the process for using CMER data. Teresa, Jim and Chris will work on the memo. CMER recommended that the memo should be generic and sent to all of the contractors.

- Collaborative – Tribes/WFPA - *Update*

Todd Baldwin provided an update of the Tribal Industry Collaborative (TIC). The intent of the collaborative is to identify a way to move the data collection process forward. TIC is interested in funding this year's annual collection of temperature data, which will be a part of the Extensive Monitoring Project's rotating panel for trend analysis.

Bill Ehinger suggested that TIC and Ecology should discuss logistics.

Nancy Sturhan asked for clarification of the schedule. Todd commented that they would like to have thermographs installed this summer.

Mark Hicks commented that partnerships are healthy but advised that a panel should be formed where procedures and commitments are established to provide a favorable outcome of the efforts.

Co-chair Mendoza summarized the discussion at the April Policy meeting on the issues surrounding the TIC and the Tribal PIP study as non-CMER research. Policy will need to decide if and how the TIC data might be used, and if so, whether or not it will be considered CMER research if it is developed outside of CMER's process for scoping and the study design developed by RSAG's Extensive Monitoring Project.

Nancy Sturhan recommended and reaffirmed the importance of an implementation plan that should be completed. Todd agreed that the work on the implementation plan is straight forward.

Bill Ehinger clarified that the process needs to be defined on how to use the data after it is collected by TIC and sees this partnership as a trial process.

Co-chair Mendoza welcomed the help from the TIC in collecting water quality related monitoring data. However, if the data is going to be used by CMER, a decision needs to be made by Policy, with direction to CMER, on how the data will be used, and whether the CMER PSM is going to be followed regarding the process for developing and implementing CMER projects.

Co-chair Jackson commented that the rotating panel and trends analysis has been a desired objective by RSAG, and that RSAG had mentioned earlier that a cooperative effort may be necessary to achieve it.

Todd Baldwin thanked folks for letting him present this topic on the agenda, and he has collected the comments.

➤ Post-Mortem Update

Project Manager Amy Kurtenbach identified the CMER reviewers for the Post-Mortem Draft Report: Doug Martin, Dick Miller, Terry Jackson, Nancy Sturhan, Environmental Caucus, Caucus' Paul Kennard, Dave Parks, Mark Hicks and Alice Shelly.

➤ CMER – April 1st F&F Budget Retreat
Policy Revision on Work Plan

Co-chair Jackson summarized all of the changes made to the work plan at the Policy retreat. Leslie Lingley reported to CMER that all of the changes made to the work plan were approved by UPSAG.

➤ CMER – April 1st F&F Budget Retreat
Follow Up on Policy Approved CMER Budget

Jim Hotvedt, AMPA, presented the revised budget to CMER and reported that the budget is in the black. He reported that we received \$1.5 million (one time funding) from the ALEA account.

Dick Miller asked how much money is in the development fund and Jim reported there is \$100k in the budget. There are currently no pre-approved uses for the money. Jim informed CMER that large expenditures should be forwarded to Policy as an FYI.

Doug Martin requested that an updated budget sheet (the former large version) be sent to CMER.

➤ CMER – Future Grant Opportunities
Update

Jim Hotvedt, AMPA, reported that EPA was going to have more grant opportunities mid to late summer 2010. The timeline to hear about approval of the applications to EPA is May 14th.

➤ CMER Science Conference
Debrief & Re-Cap

Co-chair Jackson reported on the input she received about the conference. The comments reflected on the relevancy to CMER and the link to adaptive management. Nancy Sturhan brought up that in the past, the opening slide had the link to adaptive management stated. Co-chair Jackson commented that the pre-review on presentations helped.

Jim Hotvedt commented that he was pleased with the presenters' response to the suggestions. He commented that Carolyn Dobbs encouraged board members to attend the conference.

Aimee thought it was wonderful to have control over the slides. It made it easier to present. Todd commented that the presentations were great. He felt it was the best conference to date.

➤ CMER/SAG Membership & Work list

Nancy Sturhan commented that the list that was sent out is not the updated list. Chris asked Nancy to include the work list as an attachment.

➤ CMER – Co-chair recommendations and terms
Caucus recommendations for CMER Co-chairs

There were no nominations for CMER co-chairs. Terry has agreed to stay one year and Chris will remain for two years.

Doug asked what happened to the idea of rotating through different caucuses.

Dave commented that there is the risk of having folks in the position that do not have experience. CMER discussed the two year term. Nancy suggested there may be more volunteers if the term was one year. Chris also suggested that SAG co-chairs are good candidates for CMER co-chairs due their experience managing SAGs.

- CMER – Document Disclaimer
Template & Format

Co-chair Jackson handed out the “*CMER Decision Tree for Report Introductory Note/Foreword*”. This document was approved by CMER back in December of 2005. The disclaimer would be placed on the backside of the cover page of CMER reports. Terry will forward the document over email to CMER members.

Leslie requested a copy of the current cover page and she will develop a template using one of the existing Word templates.

- SAG – Soft Rock project
Update

Co-chair Mendoza reported that the soft rock scoping document will be presented to CMER in May.

CMER Report to Policy:

Co-chair Mendoza will report to Policy the CMER 2011 Work plan, CMER Co-Chairs candidates, and a debriefing on the 2010 CMER Science Conference.

Future Agendas:

Nancy Sturhan requested to have time on the agenda to discuss what CMER has learned from incomplete projects.

Meeting Adjourned.