

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee
(CMER)**

**May 28, 2013
DNR/DOC Compound**

Attendees	Representing
*Sturhan, Nancy	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
*Mobbs, Mark	Quinault Indian Nation
*Lingley, Leslie	Department of Natural Resources
Kurtenbach, Amy	Department of Natural Resources
*Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
Ehinger, Bill	Department of Ecology
Stewart, Greg	CMER Staff, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Terwilleger, Karen	Washington Forest Protection Association – Policy Member
*Kroll, A.J.	Weyerhaeuser
*Miller, Dick	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Hotvedt, Jim	Department of Natural Resources, AMPA
*Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus Contractor, CMER Co-Chair
*Hicks, Mark	Department of Ecology, CMER Co-Chair
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources, CMER Coordinator
*Baldwin, Todd (ph)	Kalispel Tribe of Indians
*Kay, Debbie (ph)	Suquamish Tribe, WETSAG Co-Chair

* Indicates official CMER members and alternates; ph indicates attended via phone.

Agenda – Nancy Sturhan requested to add an update on the CMER Protocol and Standards Manual (PSM) and the CMER Information Management System to the agenda.

Dick Miller requested discussing Doug Martin’s suggestion at the January meeting about the potential for CMER to partner with NCASI (Bob Danahey) in developing a research study on best management practices and targets for water runoff with the Environmental Protection Agency. Mark Hicks suggested that partnering on a BMP study would be a good topic for a future science session and could be considered during that agenda item later in the meeting. Jim Hotvedt replied that the Forest Practice Board chair is looking closely at what is getting done in CMER and suggested putting this on fast track. Chris Mendoza agreed and said CMER needs to prioritize this project regardless of the potential for partnerships because it’s one of the LEAN Pilot projects approved by the Board..

CMER Monthly Science Session:

State of Knowledge of Amphibians – Marc Hayes, WDFW
The science session was canceled as Mary Hayes was unavailable.

Business Session:

Coordinator's Corner:

◆ Approval of January & March 2013 Meeting Notes

March meeting minutes discussion:

Leslie Lingley requested a meeting to discuss water typing on CMER projects. She would like to have a more in-depth conversation about the discussion points that were brought up at the March meeting regarding this topic. She remarked that she doesn't think that Type N steams should be included in a Type F study and vice versa. Todd Baldwin asked her if she was speaking about any specific study. She replied that she was referring to the Solar/Shade study but couldn't give him a specific example from the study. Chris Mendoza suggested that the topic be added to the June meeting agenda as a discussion item so there is enough time to gather and review documents related to the issue to facilitate a more productive discussion.

The March meeting minutes were not approved pending additional comments from Leslie. They will be reviewed again at the June meeting.

January meeting minutes:

There were no comments on the January meeting minutes. Chris Mendoza moved to approve the January meeting notes, Dick Miller seconded. **Approved**

◆ CMER Monthly Science Sessions – Updating Current Topics List

The Potential CMER Science Session Topics list was reviewed and several changes were made. Items were removed that were determined to be more relevant to Policy or irrelevant to CMER's research and monitoring projects outlined in the Work Plan.

Bob Danahey with NCASI was tentatively scheduled for the July 2013 meeting to give a presentation about best management practices and targets for water runoff with the Environmental Protection Agency. Doug Martin will contact him to see if he is available.

Linda Storm from EPA was tentatively scheduled for the August 2013 meeting to give a presentation about wetland function. Jim Hotvedt will contact her to see if she is available.

It was determined that the presentations for the rest of the year should focus on the Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment in Hard Rock Lithologies Study. The Co-Chairs will review the coordinated review schedule and will cross-walk presentations to correlate with chapter completions.

Decisions:

RSAG

- ◆ Eastside Type F Extensive Temperature Study Six Questions – *CMER Approval*

Mark Hicks motioned that CMER accept the six questions and send them to Policy. Dick Miller seconded the motion. **Approved**

Jim Hotvedt will deliver the six questions to Policy at their June 6th meeting.

LWAG/RSAG

Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment in Hard Rock Lithologies Study -

- ◆ *Request for review of chapters 1-4*
- ◆ *Assign SAG/CMER reviewers for chapters 1-17*
- ◆ *Suggest potential additional outside technical expertise as reviewers to support the CMER review process*

Amy Kurtenbach reported that first four chapters are ready for review and Chris Mendoza, Doug Martin, Mark Hicks and A.J. Kroll have already volunteered to review them. She asked if anyone else was interested in reviewing them. Nancy Sturhan said that she would review them or find someone from the Commission or Tribes to review them. Amy requested that the comments be sent to herself and Aimee McIntyer and asked the reviewers what they felt would be an appropriate review time. June 18, 2013 was set as the comment due date.

Send comments to Aimee and Amy when done, need to set date for comments to be due.

Amy reminded reviewers to use line numbers when making comments in a separate document and to use the green, yellow, red color coding for comments. She emphasized that the color coding will help the authors determine what comments were the most important to focus on. She also requested that reviewers also provide solutions and add substance to comments so the author(s) know what to do with them.

Amy requested suggestions for potential additional reviewers with technical expertise to support the CMER review process.

CMER

- ◆ **Stillwater report of the “CMER Adaptive Management Program Review of Science” – Approval of cover letter**

Chris reported that he wasn't able to get the memo completed and that he will have it done for the June meeting.

Updates:

CMER Protocol and Standards Manual - Nancy Sturhan reported that chapter 7 of the PSM is in the process of being updated and the goal is to have it completed by August.

CMER Information Management System – Nancy Sturhan reported that the IMS is being updated with Teresa Miskovic’s help. She mentioned that a TAG meeting may be needed to make sure the right stuff is being included. Jim Hotvedt said that Teresa has been working about one day a week and has been totally focused on finding documents for the IMS. She has found close to 100 documents that others haven’t found in their searches. Sometime this year (in the next six months) he will be asking her to focus on water typing. He said a request may be made of members for and documents that they may have. Dick Miller asked if the information will be transferred to Forest Practices and Jim replied yes.

Report from Policy – May 2nd Meeting update by Chris Mendoza

- ◆ **Eastside Type N TWIG** – Policy did not approve the Purpose, Objective, and Critical Questions document created by the TWIG. Chris Mendoza sent a request to Policy asking for an explanation of why they weren’t approved and hasn’t received a response back. There was speculation among members as to why the document wasn’t approved. Chris Mendoza stated that some Policy members were confused about how the LEAN process is supposed to work, e.g., the forest landowner caucus was concerned that their CMER members did not get their comments addressed even though there is no “official” CMER review required for this stage.
- ◆ **Post Mortem** – Jim Hotvedt delivered the package to Policy and they accepted it and are starting the 45 day period to decide whether or not they will take action,
- ◆ **Debrief on budget meeting** – Policy liked the way the budget package came to them and would like CMER to do the same thing next year. They would like to go to a biennial budget and are considering doing it for the 2015-2016 Biennium.
- ◆ **Adaptive Management reform rulemaking** – FP rule changes that were a part of the FPHCP Settlement Agreement are completed and were sent to the Board. Revisions are being made to Section 22 of the AM board manual consistent with the Settlement Agreement. CMER will need to update their dispute resolution process in Chapter 3 of the PSM when rule making and Board Manual revisions are completed.

Report from Forest Practices Board – May 14th Meeting update by Jim Hotvedt

- ◆ **FY 14 CMER Workplan** – Approved.
- ◆ **Fiscal 2014 Adaptive Management Program budget** – The Board approved the Fiscal 2014 AMP budget with some minor changes: 1) the budget for the Van Dyke Salamander study was moved from FY 14 to FY 15. The Extensive Riparian Status & Trends Monitoring Eastside Type N Temperature and Vegetation budgets were cut in half to \$25,000 each. Finally, the Wetlands Program Research/Monitoring strategy was reduced from \$125,000 over the two years FY14-15 to \$50,000 in FY14 only. DNR doesn’t charge Jim also reported that the charges for updating the CMER for web page are now being covered by CMER instead of the Forest Practices Division and that there is a reduction in cost for in Program Administration for Contract Specialist/CMER Coordinator since Patti Shramek is has taken over as the CMER Coordinator for Dawn Hitchens.

UPSAG

- ◆ **Wetland Systematic Literature Review** – *Status*

Amy Kurtenbach reported that Paul Adamus has updated the document with the reviewer comments and presented the document to WETSAG. She has asked WETSAG to submit their comments for the revision before next meeting. It will be a few months before the document is ready for CMER review.

CMER Staff Position – Amy Kurtenbach reported that the SAGs have been asking about CMER Staff position and asked Jim Hotvedt if he had an update. Jim replied that the job announcement will be posted within the next month.

CMER/SAG Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- ◆ Lesley Lingley will send comments on March notes to Patti Shramek for consideration at the June meeting.
- ◆ CMER Science Sessions - Doug Martin will check with Bob Danahey regarding presenting in July. Jim Hotvedt will check with Linda Storm about presenting in August. Co-chairs will cross walk Type N schedule to come up with other topics.
- ◆ Patti Shramek will send out symposium link to CMER listserv
- ◆ Jim Hotvedt and Amy Kurtenbach will work on a method of getting out large documents that are too large to be emailed (FTP, Dropbox, and SharePoint).
- ◆ Leslie Lingley's research issues will be discussed at the next meeting.

Report to Policy:

Six questions approved today will go their way.

Adjourned