

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee
(CMER)
October 28, 2014
DNR/DOC Compound/Tumwater WA**

Attendees	Representing
Adams, Joel	Kalispell Tribe of Indians
§Bell, Harry	Green Crow
Beckett, Leah	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
chesney, charles (ph)	Member of the Public
§Dieu, Julie	Rayonier
Haemmerle, Howard	Department of Natural Resources
Hanlon-Meyer, Chris	Department of Natural Resources
Hayes, Marc	Department of Fish & Wildlife
§Hicks, Mark	Department of Ecology, CMER Co-Chair
§Kay, Debbie (ph)	Suquamish Tribe
Kurtenbach, Amy	Department of Natural Resources
§Lingley, Leslie	Department of Natural Resources
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protections Association
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus
Roorbach, Ash	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Schuett-Hames, Dave	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator
Stewart, Greg	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
§Sturhan, Nancy	NWIFC
Walter, Jason	Weyerhaeuser

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

*Indicates Decision

Introductions:

Dave Schuett-Hames introduced Leah Beckett, the new Wetlands Scientist on the CMER Staff at the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. She can be reached at lbeckett@nwifc.org or (360) 528-4376.

Mark Hicks introduced Harry Bell as the new CMER member for the Washington Farm Forestry Association. Harry was appointed by the Forest Practices Board at their August 12, 2014 meeting.

Assignments review – Mark Hicks reviewed the assignments from the September meeting. Patti Shramek will send out the assignments spreadsheet a couple days after each meeting.

Science Session:

◆ CMER Science Conference (February 11 & 12, 2015) – Establish Project Presentations and review of planning schedule

The list of projects was reviewed and the following were chosen for presentation at the February 2015 CMER Science Conference:

First day, Wednesday, February 11:

Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study in Hard Rock Lithologies Study (Hard Rock)

Second Day, Thursday, February 12:

- Forest Hydrology Study (FHS)
- Eastern Washington Riparian Assessment Project (EWRAP)
- Type F Bull Trout Overlay Temperature/Shade
- Hardwood Conversion Study
- Amphibian Buffer Integrity-Shade Effectiveness Study
- Wetlands Literature Review and Strategy
- RMZ Study Re-sample (Bird)

Patti Shramek asked the committee who they would like to give the welcome and introductory remarks. The Commissioner of Public Lands has done it in the past. Other suggestions were Aaron Everett, as the FP Board Chair or Chris Hanlon-Meyer, who is acting as the AMPA, if the Commissioner was not available. Patti will speak to Chris Hanlon-Meyer and ask him if he will invite the Commissioner or Aaron to give the welcome and opening remarks.

Amy Kurtenbach reported that an invitation for the Forest Board Practices Board to attend will be offered during the Adaptive Management Program report she and Chris-Hanlon-Meyer will be giving at the Forest Practices Board at the November 12th meeting.

◆ Presentation on Draft Mass Wasting Research Strategy

Nancy Sturhan and Julie Dieu answered question regarding the document authored by Nancy, Julie, and Isabell Sarikhan titled, Unstable Slopes – Glacial deep-seated landslides and their groundwater recharge areas. This document was developed for the Timber, Fish, and Wildlife Policy Committee (Policy).

UPSAG Update:

Nancy Sturhan reported that UPSAG has been assigned the literature review and critical questions that were unfinished from Board Manual 16 Technical Advisory Group. This work may be contracted out using funds assigned for UPSAG in the FY15 budget. She also reported that the first UPSAG meeting will be on November 19, 2014.

Lean

Kurtenbach gave an overview of the Lean event CMER went through in March 2012. She is taking a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt course through the University of Washington and her project for this course is the CMER Lean Pilot process. Aaron Everett is supporting her on this process and will be signing the charter. She had the meeting participants take part in a Lean exercise and will report the results at the next CMER meeting.

Coordinators Corner

- ♦ ***Approval of September 2014 Meeting Minutes –**
Chris Mendoza and Charles Chesney requested a few edits. **Approved with edits**

Decisions:

LWAG

- ♦ ***Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study in Hard Rock Lithologies Study – Request for review of Chapter 16 – Fish**

Amy Kurtenbach reported that this is Chapter 15 at this point of the process but will be changed to Chapter 16 in the final version. Jason Walter gave a summary of the chapter and answered questions. He reported that Doug Martin has already reviewed the chapter and sent in comments.

Amy Kurtenbach requested reviewers for the chapter. Reviewers are Caprice Fasano (tribal caucus member), Mark Hicks, Doug Martin, Chris Mendoza, and Pete Bisson (small forest landowner caucus member). **Comments are due by November 18 (date of the November CMER meeting).**

Updates:

Report from Policy – October 2 Regular Meeting & October 10 Special Meeting

Mark Hicks reported that primarily worked on the mass wasting issues and had discussions about the Board Manual at the October 2 regular meeting.

Policy was supposed to make a decision on the Solar/Shade study, but no decision was made and they are continuing to work on it. They will discuss it more at the November 13 meeting.

CMER

◆ **Introduction of Leah Beckett, new CMER Wetlands Scientist**

Mark Hicks introduced Leah Beckett as the new Wetlands Scientist for NWIFC and Dave Schuett-Hames gave a summary of her history in wetlands science. It is anticipated that the majority of Leah's time will be spent working with WetSAG but she will be available to work on other projects on a limited basis. She can be reached at lbeckett@nwifc.org or (360) 528-4376.

◆ **Reminder and discussion about CMER Annual Accomplishments Document**

Amy Kurtenbach reminded members that a few years ago CMER started documenting their accomplishments and that the document is presented at the December meeting. She would like the SAG and TWIG Co-chairs to send accomplishments to her and Howard Haemmerle in the next month so they can assemble them in the document for presentation at the December CMER meeting.

◆ **Adaptive Management Program Manager (AMPA) Update**

Chris Hanlon-Meyer reported that they are in negotiations with a candidate at this time and hopefully this person will start on December 1, 2014.

LWAG

◆ **Amphibian Buffer Shade – update**

Marc Hayes reported that Jim McCracken has revised the document and Julie Tyson and Marc Hayes are going to QA/QC it.

Amy Kurtenbach gave an overview of what has happened thus far with the review; issues with the review, how they have been addressed, and the next steps. The report has been re-worked, incorporating reviewer comments. CMER reviewers will re-review it to see if their issues have been resolved and then decide next steps. There was a discussion about whether an outside statistical review by a qualified statistician or returning the document to ISPR requesting a statistician be included in the review.

RSAG

◆ **Hardwood Conversion Study – update**

Ash Roorbach reported that the re-sample data collection will be in 2016. He is working with Howard Haemmerle and Frank Brown on the contract. They will be going to RSAG to discuss starting the re-sample in fall 2015.

◆ **Extensive Monitoring Remote Sensing Proposal – update**

Mark Hicks reported that RSAG has produced a draft document to send to Dr. Monica Musca; at the University of Washington for a draft pilot study. She will be attending the November RSAG meeting.

SAGE

◆ **Eastern Washington Type N Forest Hydrology Study – update**

Amy Kurtenbach reported that the package for ISPR is being put together and will be sent soon. The ISPR should be completed sometime in January. Mark Hicks reminded everyone that CMER can request clarification on ISPR comments, but it needs to be done in a timely manner (within 60 days after ISPR comments are received).

◆ **EWRAP – update**

Howard Haemmerle reported that all four sections of the report have been completed and Ash Roorbach presented a proposal on how to structure it at the last SAGE meeting. After a lengthy discussion SAGE decided not to restructure the report but to keep and revise the four sections and to add a summary section. Howard said that Ash has developed a comment matrix to make sure that all the comments are being addressed and that it went out to SAGE last week. Joel Adams said that the review deadline hasn't been discussed but it will probably be by the December SAGE meeting. The next step will be for Ash to propose how he plans to address the comments.

WetSAG

◆ **Wetlands Systematic Literature Review and Strategy – update**

Harry Bell reported that the Literature Synthesis has been accepted as Final by CMER and that WetSAG should finalize the Wetland Strategy at their October 29 meeting. The final Strategy should come to CMER in November. They will also be working on the findings report, discussing whether or not the Literature Synthesis and Wetland Strategy should go to Policy as a package. They will also assist as the IWT and compile a list of possible TWIG members.

TWIG

◆ **Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Study Design TWIG – update**

Gregg Stewart reported that he just received the imagery from last data collection. He will present it at the next SAGE meeting and hopefully something will come to CMER at the December or January meeting. The report should be ready in spring.

◆ **Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project TWIG – update**

Dave Schuett-Hames reported the TWIG has a meeting scheduled for October 30. They have completed the literature review and are working on the study design alternatives

document. They will discuss whether or not they want to put together consensus recommendations to include in the document. The recommendations should come to CMER in either December or January.

◆ **Unstable Slope Criteria Project Team TWIG – update**

Mark Hicks reported that the TWIG was formed on October 27 and first meeting will be sometime in November. The TWIG members are: Isabelle Sarikhan, Greg Stewart, Dan Miller, Ted Turner, and Wendy Gerstel.

◆ **BMP Roads Effectiveness Project TWIG – update**

Julie Dieu reported that the TWIG had a teleconference to decide their next steps. They are reviewing literature. Amy Kurtenbach is working on setting up a couple teleconferences for November and December to see how literature review is going.

◆ **Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project TWIG - update**

Amy Kurtenbach sent Leah Beckett the document for setting up a TWIG and is working with WetSAG to put together a list of possible members. The list should be ready for CMER in November.

CMER/SAG Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- ◆ Patti Shramek will speak with Chris Hanlon-Meyer about inviting the Commissioner and/or Aaron Everett to provide opening remarks at Science Conference
- ◆ September meeting minutes were approved with edits
- ◆ SAGs will discuss their 2014 accomplishments at their November meetings and send them to Amy Kurtenbach and Howard Haemmerle for inclusion in the accomplishments document to be presentation at December meeting
- ◆ Comments on the Fish chapter for the Hard Rock Study are due by November 18, 2014
- ◆ Amy Kurtenbach will do a Lean process presentation at the November meeting
- ◆ Marc Hayes will do a presentation on the Tailed Frog Literature Review at the January meeting