

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

March 22, 2016

Department of Natural Resources Southeast Region Office/Ellensburg, Washington

Attendees	Representing
Andrade, Charlene	Department of Natural Resources
§Baldwin, Todd	Kalispel Tribe – CMER Co-Chair
Beckett, Leah	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
§Bell, Harry	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Berge, Hans	Department of Natural Resources - AMPA
chesney, charles (ph)	Member of the Public
Entz, Ray	Kalispel Tribe of Indians (Policy Committee)
Garlesky, Jennifer (ph)	UCUT – CMER Staff
Gauthier, Marc (ph)	UCUT
Haemmerle, Howard	Department of Natural Resources
§Hayes, Marc (ph)	Department of Fish and Wildlife
§Hicks, Mark	Washington Department of Ecology
Hooks, Doug	WFPA – CMER Co-Chair
Jasper, Kodi-Jo (ph)	CCT
§Kay, Debbie (ph)	Suquamish Tribe
§Knoth, Jenny (ph)	Green Crow
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
§Mendoza, Chris (ph)	Conservation Caucus
Murray, Joe	Merrill Ring
Roorbach, Ash	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Schuetz-Hames, Dave	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator
Stewart, Greg	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Woodsmith, Rick	ENREP TWIG Memeber

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

*Indicates Decision

Science Session

***SAGE Work Plan** – *Review and final approval of additional projects*

Kodi Jo Jaspers gave a summary of the three items considered for addition to the CMER Work Plan (Work Plan) and reported that only the Ns project had consensus at SAGE. Todd Baldwin commented that CMER could approve all three projects if they were so inclined. Discussion revolved around the pros and cons of putting non-SAG consensus items in the work plan. Hans Berge commented that getting them in the Work Plan would add them to the Master Project Schedule and make it easier to move them forward when they were ready to go. Mark Hicks

commented that there is no need to prove that there is a problem in order to get a project in the Work Plan. If there is an issue it would come out during the study design phase. Doug Martin remarked that he doesn't have an issue with Ns, but he thinks it may be a little pre-mature. Revisions were made to the Ns language of the request. Baldwin asked if anyone was opposed to moving the Ns project, as revised into the Work Plan. No opposition. – **Approved**

SAGE Salvage project approved, as revised, to be included in the Work Plan.

The Herbicide Literature Review proposal was not approved to move forward.

CMER Work Plan – *Discussion on how to clean it up*

Discussion revolved around whether or not to remove the Link to Adaptive Management from the Work Plan and put it in its own standalone document. Chris Mendoza reported that he has had a few people talk to him about having a summary of currently funded projects that are in the Work Plan. Mendoza said he took the proposal to remove the Link to Adaptive Management to Policy and there was a mixed reaction about the removal. He said that based on his own experience, Policy representatives, including his own, don't use it. Mendoza will send copy of previous Work Plan with the Link to Adaptive Management removed as an example of how it will look without it.

Decisions:

***CMER Budget** – *Review and approval of FY 2017 budget*

Berge reviewed the Master Project Budget that he proposes be moved forward to Policy for approval. He requested approval to send the budget in Column D (FY 16 changes) to Policy. The budget was reviewed and revisions made for both fiscal years.

Baldwin moved to approve budget, as modified, for 15-17 Biennium – **Approved**

TWIG

◆ ***ENREP** – *Approval of treatments for wet portion of study*

Greg Stewart reviewed the treatment options for the Np wet portion of the ENREP study and answered questions. Discussion revolved around the treatments, testing a treatment that isn't in rule, and if the Best Available Science (BAS) is thorough. No consensus – **Non-Approval.**

Next Steps: AMPA and CMER Co-Chairs will work out where to go from here.

Ray Entz, Policy Representative for the Eastside Tribes, remarked that this is the most disturbing piece of work to come out of CMER. He requested that CMER keep policy out of CMER and just focus on the science.

RSAG

◆ **Hardwood Conversion Study** – *Determining author schedule and budget.*

Joe Murray and Howard Haemmerle reviewed the Hardwood Conversion project background and considerations for improving and modifying the document. Murray added that the \$80k in the FY 16 budget is for Pacific Rim to finish up the re-sample and case studies. A decision needs to be made on how to move forward with document completion since the CMER Scientist position that was responsible for writing it is now vacant. Baldwin replied that he felt it was RSAG's job to come with recommendation. Hicks said as long as the 10 year data is collected he sees no reason why the document completion couldn't wait for a while. Doug Martin replied that he felt it should be completed to tie up the project and get it finally completed. Haemmerle replied that at this time they are just bringing information and no approval is requested at this time.

WetSAG

◆ **Propose Science Session on Forest Chemicals**

Charlene Andrade reviewed the request to have a half work session, hopefully by summer, to bring in experts to present information on forest chemicals. Jenny Knoth said WetSAG is planning on having a session, but thought they would open it up to CMER as a whole. Baldwin asked who would be putting together the questions to be asked of the presenters. Leah Beckett said WetSAG could work on those questions.

Next Steps: WetSAG will work with RSAG and SAGE to develop questions and work on getting speakers lined up. The session will be on the CMER agenda sometime the summer of 2016.

◆ **Request to add Mapping Phase I & II to the CMER Work Plan.**

WetSAG will provide language to add to Work Plan and present it at next CMER meeting.

Updates:

Report from Policy – *February 4 meeting*

Doug Hooks reported that the following was covered at the February Policy meeting:

- ◆ Forest Practices Board update.
- ◆ Approved Roads BMP document.
- ◆ Significant time spent on Type F issues.
- ◆ Continued discussion on EDNA barcoding.
- ◆ Findings report on FHS approved – decision made to not to take any action.
- ◆ Update on CMER and CMER budget.

CMER

- ◆ **Protocols and Standards Manual Chapter 7 - update**

Ash Roorbach reported that they are still on schedule for completion of Chapter 7 of the PSM for presentation to CMER at the April meeting.

LWAG

- ◆ **Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study – Basalt Lithologies (Hard Rock) – ISPR update**

Andrade reported that the PIs are working on clarification on the extended sampling and will present it at the April meeting. Seven chapters are back from ISPR for the PIs to respond to comments. The Amphibians chapter (Chapter 15) will be coming to CMER in April. The introductory chapters should be ready for review in June.

- ◆ **Van Dykes – update**

Andrade reported that Marc Hayes is working on the clarification for the proposal and will present it at the April meeting.

- ◆ **Buffer Shade - Update**

Berge reported that the study is now in the ISPR phase.

RSAG

- ◆ **Remote Sensing Pilot Project – update**

Joe Murray reported that Dr. Moskal gave a presentation on the progress of the project at the last RSAG meeting and stated that field crews will start in June.

SAGE

- ◆ **Eastside Modeling Evaluation Project (EMEP) – update**

Haemmerle reported that the kick off meeting was held last week with the contractor and most of the contractor's questions have been addressed. Contractor is working on the first phase of the contract.

Public Comment Period

Charles Chesney requested information on the December 2015 meeting notes and requested that the public comment period be moved to the beginning of the agenda in the future.

Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- ◆ Ns and Salvage SAGE projects approved to go into Work Plan, as revised
- ◆ Modified 15-17 Biennium budget approved.
- ◆ Non-concession on ENREP – Hans Berge, Todd Baldwin, and Doug Hooks will work on figuring out next steps.

- ◆ WetSAG will work with RSAG and SAGE to develop questions and work on getting speakers lined up for pesticide science session.
- ◆ WetSAG will provide language to add to the Work Plan at next the CMER meeting and Hans Berge and Doug Hooks will convey intentions to Policy at their April meeting.
- ◆ Hans Berge will send out the clean Master Project Plan.

Adjourned