

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee  
(CMER)  
September 23, 2014  
DNR Southeast Region Office/Ellensburg**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representing</b>
§Baldwin, Todd	Kalispel Tribe of Indians, CMER Co-Chair
§Bell, Harry (ph)	Green Crow
chesney, charles (ph)	Member of the Public
§Dieu, Julie (ph)	Rayonier
Haemmerle, Howard	Department of Natural Resources
Hanlon-Meyer, Chris	Department of Natural Resources
Hayes, Marc (ph)	Department of Fish & Wildlife
§Hicks, Mark (ph)	Department of Ecology, CMER Co-Chair
Jaspers, Kodi-Joe	Colville Confederated Tribes
Kurtenbach, Amy	Department of Natural Resources
§Martin, Doug (ph)	Washington Forest Protections Association
§Mendoza, Chris (ph)	Conservation Caucus
Schuetz-Hames, Dave (ph)	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator
Stewart, Greg	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
§Sturhan, Nancy (ph)	NWIFC

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

\*Indicates Decision

**Science Session:**

◆ **CMER Science Conference (February 11 & 12, 2015) – Establish Project Presentations and Finalize Planning Schedule**

The conference timeline was reviewed and finalized and project presentations were discussed.

The first day of the conference will be dedicated to the Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study in Hard Rock Lithologies Study (Hard Rock).

Possible presentations for the second day are: Forest Hydrology Study (FHS), Eastern Washington Riparian Assessment Project (EWRAP), Type F Bull Trout Overlay Temperature/Shade Project, Type F Extensive Temperature Monitoring Project, Hardwood Conversion Study, Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project (Bull Trout Add-on), Buffer Integrity-Shade Effectiveness Study, Wetlands Literature Review and Strategy, Tailed Frog Literature Review, and RMZ Study Re-sample (Bird).

Todd Baldwin will send out a list of possible presentations to the SAG's and ask them to get back to him before the next CMER meeting. CMER will decide what projects will be presented at the conference at the October meeting.

Harry Bell asked if projects outside of CMER could be presented. Mark Hicks replied that the Science Conference is for showcasing what has been accomplished in CMER but non-CMER projects can be presented during the monthly meeting science sessions.

### **Coordinators Corner**

- ◆ **\*Approval of August 2014 Meeting Minutes** – Hicks motioned that the minutes be approved, Chris Mendoza seconded - **Approved**
- ◆ **\*2015 Meeting Dates – Decision on 2015 Ellensburg meeting dates**  
The March, May, and October 2015 CMER meetings will be held in Ellensburg.

### **Decisions:**

#### **SAGE**

- ◆ **\*Eastern Washington Type N Forest Hydrology Study – *Approval of additional questions and qualifications for ISPR Review***

Kodi-Jo Jaspers reported that report was approved to send to ISPR at August meeting and requested approval of the eight questions plus two supplemental questions that will go with the report to ISPR. Chris Mendoza moved to approve the questions, Mark Hicks seconded – **Approved**

Mark Hicks commented that Leslie Lingley asked to have the rules for Water Typing provided along with the report to the ISPR reviewers. Mark said he is okay with it as long as it is done carefully so the reviewers aren't confused as to the focus of the study. Chris Mendoza replied that he thinks it will confuse the reviewers. Charles Chesney said he thinks it's important for reviewers to understand the definition of the types of features that were studied. Mark replied that he doesn't understand how this will help the reviewers as there is no cross-walk between the study and water typing. Mendoza noted the study was designed to only be a site selection tool and isn't designed to be used as a tool for water typing.

There was no agreement to include water typing rules – Todd Baldwin moved to send the report to ISPR without the rules, Chris Mendoza seconded.

Charles Chesney commented that there was trespass during the initial field work for this study. Mark Hicks replied that the trespass was alleged and this and it is not a productive discussion.

## **WetSAG**

- ◆ **\*Wetlands Systematic Literature Review and Strategy – *Request for approval of final matrix and literature synthesis***

Amy Kurtenbach requested CMER approve the final matrix and synthesis. If approved, it will be forwarded to Policy. Todd Baldwin moved to approve, Mark Hicks seconded - **Approved**

## **Updates:**

### **Report from Forest Practices Board – September 3 & 4 Meeting**

Mark Hicks reported that the meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> was general updates and there was nothing that affected CMER. The meeting on 4th focused on un-stable slopes and draft products are being completed.

### **Report from Policy – September 5 Meeting**

Mark Hicks reported the following CMER related items were covered at the meeting:

- ◆ BMP Roads Effectiveness Project TWIG problem statement and critical questions were approved.
- ◆ Review started on the Type F Bull Trout Overlay Temperature/Shade Project BTO Policy and decision their decision on how to proceed is due in October.
- ◆ Requested the AMPA job posting be sent to Policy
- ◆ An update was given on remote sensing. RSAG will be working with CMER on recommendations.

## **LWAG**

- ◆ **Tailed Frog Literature Review – *update***

Mark Hayes reported that report will come to CMER in October for approval.

- ◆ **Amphibian Buffer Shade – *update***

Marc Hayes reported that he has been working with George McCracken on comments and it should be done soon. Julie Tyson will then work on finalizing the report and it should take about a month to get back to CMER. Jim can present the report to CMER, the cost will be travel plus \$255 a day for two days of preparation (\$510 plus travel). Chris Mendoza asked if a statistician has reviewed the report. Amy Kurtenbach replied that Jim is working on the inconsistencies in the report and once that is completed LWAG wants it to go to a statistician. Mendoza said that he would like clarification on the process for a review by a statistician.

- ◆ **Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study in Hard Rock Lithologies Study** – Marc Hayes and Aimee McIntyre reported that the Fish and Amphibian chapters will be available in October.

## **RSAG**

- ◆ **Remote Sensing** – *update*

Howard Haemmerle reported that Policy directed RSAG to keep working on the matrix. Joe Murray sent the draft matrix and problem statement to RSAG for review after their last meeting and they will be discussing it at their next meeting. It will go to Policy after RSAG completes and CMER reviews and approves it.

- ◆ **Hardwood Conversion Study** – *discussion on how to proceed with the contract for the re-sample* - *update*

Howard Haemmerle reported that report will held for ISPR review until the re-sample is complete. RSAG is trying to decide if the re-sample should be bid competitively or sole sourced. Mark Hicks moved keep current contractor if RSAG decides that is the best for the project, Chris Mendoza seconded. - **Approved**

## **SAGE**

- ◆ **EWRAP** – *update*

Kodi-Jo Jaspers reported that Ash Roorbach provided SAGE with a draft summary at their September meeting. SAGE will provide comments for discussion at their October meeting.

## **TWIG**

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

Greg Stewart reported that they are waiting to get the results from ENREP. The final round of surveying has started and they will receive the data within the month. He said that it may be possible to combine the wet and dry studies if Policy requests it. He commented that they need to find out if it is possible to get harvest information from east side landowners. There was discussion about how to obtain the harvest information.

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

Howard Haemmerle reported that the TWIG is working on the Best Available Science literature review (80+ docs). Dave Schuett-Hames is working on a summary report. The results will be discussed at their September 26 meeting.

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

Howard Haemmerle reported that the qualifications and potential members were sent out. There have been no comments or additional potential members recommended. Mark Hicks will contact potential members to see if they are interested in participating.

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

Amy Kurtenbach reported that the problem statement and critical research questions document was presented to Policy and approved. The TWIG is now working on the best available science review and critical questions.

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

Amy Kurtenbach reported that she is working with WetSAG to identify possible TWIG members. She also reported that the new CMER staff member will be starting in October and will lead the TWIG.

## **CMER**

◆ **Discussion on how to get the updated baseline ISPR questions into the CMER Protocol and Standards Manual (PSM) and Board Manual.**

Mark Hicks reported that CMER can just update the PSM. The ISPR questions are only referenced in the Board Manual so that doesn't need to be changed. The group working on updating the PSM needs to get together and finish Section 7.

## **CMER/SAG Recap of Assignments/Decisions**

- ◆ Todd Baldwin will send out the list of possible science conference presentations to the SAGs and ask them to get back to him before the next CMER meeting.
- ◆ August meeting minutes approved.
- ◆ 2015 Ellensburg dates: March, May, and October.
- ◆ FHS eight questions and two additional questions for ISPR approved.
- ◆ Final Wetlands matrix and synthesis approved.
- ◆ Approved RSAG making the decision on whether or not to work with original contractor or bid out for Hardwood Conversion Study re-sample.
- ◆ Todd Baldwin will work with Mark Hicks and Ash Roorbach to make sure that the PSM sections that have been worked on are on the CMER website and that the eight ISPR questions are added.
- ◆ Mark Hicks will contact potential members for the Unstable Slopes Criteria Project Team TWIG to see if they are interested in participating.
- ◆ Nancy Sturhan and Julie Dieu will give an update on un-stable slopes at next CMER meeting.
- ◆ Nancy will request SAGs to supply her with a contact for CMER IMS review make sure projects are correct.