

Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee (CMER)
January 22, 2019
DNR/DOC Industrial Park, Tumwater WA

| Attendees | Representing |
|-----------------------|--|
| §Baldwin, Todd (ph) | Kalispel Tribe of Indians |
| §Bell, Harry (ph) | Washington Farm Forestry Association |
| Berge, Hans | Adaptive Management Program Administrator |
| chesney, charles (ph) | Member of Public |
| §Dieu, Julie | Rayonier |
| Gauthier, Marc (ph) | Upper Columbia United Tribes |
| §Hayes, Marc | Department of Fish & Wildlife |
| Haemmerle, Howard | Department of Natural Resources |
| Hernandez, Emily | Department of Natural Resources |
| §Hicks, Mark | Department of Ecology |
| Hooks, Doug | Washington Forest Protection Association – CMER Co-Chair |
| Hough-Snee, Nate (ph) | Meadow Run Environmental |
| §Kay, Debbie (ph) | Suquamish Tribe |
| §Knoth, Jenny | Green Crow - CMER Co-Chair |
| §Kroll, AJ | Weyerhaeuser |
| §Martin, Doug | Washington Forest Protection Association |
| McIntyre, Aimee | Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| §Mendoza, Chris | Conservation Caucus |
| §Mobbs, Mark | Quinalt Nation |
| Murray, Joe | Washington Forest Protection Association |
| Schuett-Hames, Dave | Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff |
| Shramek, Patti | Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator |
| Stephens, Rob (ph) | Spokane Tribe of Indians |
| Stewart, Greg (ph) | Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff |
| Swanson, Scott (ph) | Washington State Association of Counties (ph) |

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

*Indicates Decision

Science Session

Buffer Integrity-Shade Effectiveness Study – *presentation*

Marc Hayes, Department of Fish and Wildlife, gave a presentation and answered questions. Patti Shramek will send out his PowerPoint presentation to the CMER listserv. Hayes said that comments on the Findings Report and 6 questions will be received through the end of the month. He will then address and/or incorporate those comments ASAP and obtain LWAG approval. He indicated that the Findings Report and 6 questions could possibly come to CMER in March for approval. It would then go to Policy for approval, per the PSM.

Decisions:

CMER

- ◆ ***November and December 2018 Meeting Minutes**

November Meeting Minutes. Julie Dieu moved to approve the November meeting minute, Chris Mendoza seconded – **Approved**

December Meeting Minutes. Marc Hayes moved to approve the December meeting minutes, Mark Mobbs seconded – **Approved**

- ◆ ***2019 CMER Work Plan – final approval**

Heather Gibbs reported that she combined all the CMER approved SAG updates into one document and updated project numbers and the budget. Both the track changes version and clean version (with all the changes accepted) was sent out in the CMER meeting mailing. Doug Hooks thanked Gibbs for all the work she put into getting the Work Plan updated. Gibbs asked for CMER to approve the Work Plan.

Jenny Knoth moved to approve, Mark Hicks seconded – **Approved**

RSAG

- ◆ **Type F Effectiveness Project Charter and Communication Plan – approval**

Joe Murray requested approval of the Charter and Communication Plan. Mark Hicks remarked that he had a few edits. He also commented that there appeared to be a few missing steps (i.e. PI review and response to comments, Findings Report, ISPR specifics) in the schedule. It was decided that RSAG should revise the Charter to provide the needed crosswalk between the PSM guidance and the charter, as well as the Communication Plan to correspond with it.

Next Steps: RSAG will revise the Charter and Communication Plan and anticipate bringing back to CMER in February. Comments are due to Joe Murray and Teresa Miskovic by February 6, 2019.

Updates:

- ◆ **Report from Policy – January 3, 2018 Meeting**

Ash Roorbach reported that Policy focused primarily on the Type N alternative prescriptions recommendations technical workgroup charter and ranking the projects for the 17-19 biennium remaining funds. The final ranking of the projects was:

1. Hire staff to help conduct RMAP surveys on small forestland owner properties - \$25,000

2. Purchase equipment for the Riparian Characteristics and Shade Study - \$30,000
3. Provide the Type N technical workgroup with an expenses budget - \$10,000
4. Accelerate scoping of wetlands management zone effectiveness monitoring project - \$35,000
5. Acquire LiDAR for eastside, specifically ENREP sites (funding provided at 75% of need) - \$175,000

Ranking of additional projects if additional funding becomes available:

6. Acquire LiDAR for eastside ENREP sites (missing 25%) - \$46,000
7. Update the Forested Wetlands literature review - \$45,000
8. Fund an additional remote sensing model building/calibration watershed in the OESF - \$75,000
9. Fund a fire workshop - \$25,000
10. Acquire LiDAR for the Chehalis Basin - \$100,000

CMER discussion on remaining funds projects revolved around how Policy went about the prioritization, and/or the project's applicability to the AMP. Hicks commented that he was uncomfortable with how the budgets for the projects were determined and the fact that CMER wasn't given much time to come up with projects and really pencil out what the actual costs may be. Concern was raised by Hicks that he didn't realize the update to the wetlands literature review was a necessary step in the Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project, and that knowledge would have raised it as a priority for his caucus. The general consensus was that CMER needed to communicate with Policy regarding budget and ranking of the projects. Several CMER members and Berge highlighted the need to establish a formal process to identify projects that could be discrete and accomplished with unspent funds in the future. Discussion included the idea that a formal process start to identify how CMER could make it happen within the year. Knoth commented that progress reports and up-to-date budget information for each project would be useful prior to the prioritization process used to allocate projected surplus in the AMP budget.

Hooks will send out Policy approved excess budget projects and criteria by Thursday, January 24, 2019. Comments and ranking due to him by Wednesday, January 30.

Policy will be considering how to utilize the summary of the CMER discussion on if and when to decide whether a project should incorporate extended monitoring.

Berge provided an update on the PHB study design. He indicated that this has been an irregular process. CMER and ISAG comments were accepted through the January CMER meeting date. He did not expect the comments to significantly change the study design. The implementation plan will be approved by ISAG and CMER with ISAG overseeing the project once completed.

Timber Fish & Wildlife Policy meeting minutes are located on the Department of Natural Resources web page at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/forest-practices-board/tfw-policy-committee>.

◆ **CMER and SAG updates** – *answer questions on written updates*

Haemmerle reported that BTO Add-on, BCIF, and Hardwood Conversion Study are back from ISPR and comments are being addressed by the primary authors. The Unstable Slopes Criteria TWIG is still making revision from IPSR comments and continues to develop study designs.

◆ **Type N Headwaters Conference** – *update*

Doug Martin remarked that he was proud of CMER presence at the conference and that all the presenters did a great job. He would like to see CMER do more of this to share our research. Marc Hayes remarked that there were several very interesting papers presented. Hooks asked if anyone had recommendations of having any of the non-CMER presenters doing a science session presentation at CMER. Hayes recommended Dana Warren. Doug Martin identified a potentially interesting project that NCASI and Dana are involved with in Oregon. Currently, they are seeking support and an opportunity to expand the study to Washington.

◆ **Soft Rock Report Review** – *update*

Haemmerle reported that due to the holidays, vacations, and extended illness, the report will likely not be ready for CMER until April.

◆ **Hard Rock Phase II response to comments** – *update*

Haemmerle reported that due to the same reasons for the Soft Rock report delay and the time anticipated to respond to comments is taking longer than expected, the report will not be ready for CMER review until May. Mendoza replied that CMER was told that doing the outline reorganization would not add time to the report being completed. Haemmerle responded that the outline reorg didn't take any extra time, and it's the reorg of the report into the new outline, as well as the issues already discussed, is what is adding the extra time. He also stated that due to these delays completion of the reports will be in the next biennium. Patti Shramek will send the updated format out to the CMER listerv following the meeting. Hicks and Harry Bell also expressed frustration in the delay of the revised Hard Rock Phase II report.

Discussion:

◆ **2019 Eastside CMER Meetings Dates and Locations**

Shramek reported that three meetings are scheduled for the east side in 2019. March and September meetings will be held in Spokane and the June meeting will be held in Ellensburg.

◆ **Research needs related to Fire – *workshop vs strategy***

Doug Hooks outlined the discussion to date around the fire workshop idea. Marc Gauthier added to the discussion and asked that CMER make a decision regarding a date so he could communicate with Paul Hessberg, a speaker he already reached out to. Berge suggested that there should be more thought into the topic and it would be helpful to identify the goals and objectives of the workshop before soliciting for potential speakers. Berge suggested that a strategy document that identifies the important questions and topics with a nexus to the AMP. Once the uncertainties are identified, then a strategy to address the areas of uncertainty could identify a workshop as a necessity. Doug Martin agreed, and suggested that it would be helpful to get a contractor to author a strategy with Sage. Mark Hicks supported those ideas, with reservations about hiring a contractor vs working through SAGE. A.J. Kroll agreed with the discussion around identifying questions prior to holding a workshop and asked whether the topic of interest is a pre-fire condition or post-fire actions that could be taken? The answer provided by Gauthier was both. Todd Baldwin suggested that SAGE could work directly on this and set up a speaker for May regardless, and if CMER members want to show up they would be invited. Marc Gauthier said that sounded like a good place to land.

Public Comment Period

Charles Chesney asked questions about what kinds of presentations were given at the Headwaters Symposium.

Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- ◆ 2019 Work Plan approved.
- ◆ November and December 2018 minutes approved.
- ◆ Type F Effectiveness Project Charter and Communication Plan will go back to RSAG for more work (add steps and revise schedule accordingly.) Comments are due to Joe Murray and Teresa Miskovic by February 6.
- ◆ Patti Shramek will send out Type N Phase II Report outline revision.
- ◆ Hooks will send out Policy approved excess budget projects and criteria by Thursday, January 24, 2019. Comments and ranking due to him by Wednesday, January 30.
- ◆ SAGE will work with Fire sub-group on problem statement, context and links to Adaptive Management.

- ◆ Shramek will send out Marc Hayes' Buffer Integrity-Shade Effectiveness Study presentation.
- ◆ Mark Hicks will work on Riparian Characteristics Shade Study equipment for RSAG.

Adjourned @ 3:20