

Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee (CMER)
September 24, 2019
DNR/DOC Industrial Park, Tumwater WA

Attendees	Representing
§Baldwin, Todd (ph)	Kalispel Tribe of Indians
§Bell, Harry	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Davis, Emily	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Ehinger, Bill	Department of Ecology
§Hayes, Marc	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Hernandez, Emily	Department of Natural Resources
Hicks, Mark	Department of Natural Resources – AMPA
Hooks, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association – CMER Co-Chair
§Kay, Debbie	Suquamish Tribe
§Kroll, A.J. (ph)	Weyerhaeuser
§Lizon, Patrick	Department of Ecology
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus – CMER Co-Chair
Miskovic, Teresa	Department of Natural Resources
Murray, Joe	Washington Forest Protection Association
Schuettt-Hames, Dave	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Stewart, Greg (ph)	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator
Thomas, Cody (ph)	Spokane Tribe

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

*Indicates Decision

Chris Mendoza reported that he will be attending all the SAG meeting in October to and give a presentation on the roles and responsibilities of being a part of CMER and SAGs according to the CMER Protocols and Standards Manual.

Mendoza reported that there are copies of the CMER Code of Conduct on the table with the meeting materials and people have asked if they have to sign them. He said it is not required, but it is an act of good faith. Emily Davis remarked that it would be nice to read them at the beginning of each meeting. Mark Hicks remarked that he has been at Policy when they have done this and even the person who read it sometimes later violated that component in the meeting. Everyone needs to work on their own behavior and it will take a while to happen, just act professionally. Harry Bell remarked that we are solving contentious issues and it takes time.

Decisions:

CMER

- ◆ ***Protocol and Standards Manual Chapter 8 – Request for review**

Teresa Miskovic reported that all the revisions have been made and PSM Work Group feels it is ready to get CMER's eyes on it. She requested CMER review. Comments are due to Miskovic by October 24, 2019. Review of the revised document will be at the November meeting.

- ◆ ***ENREP – Approval of Answers to Policy questions relevant to the Project Team**

Mendoza reminded everyone that Timber, Fish, Wild Policy Committee (Policy) had questions for the project team, and last month CMER asked the project team to address the questions. Emily Hernandez remarked that the project team answered the questions related to them. They are set to go to Policy in October. Please let her know if there are any issues. She also went over the budget table that was sent out at a later date. Bill Ehinger and Hernandez answered questions.

Hernandez requested guidance on how to proceed.

Mendoza moved that CMER approve the answers that were provided by the project team. Todd Baldwin seconded – **Approved**

Mendoza moved, as directed by Policy, that CMER answer question one. A CMER sub-group consisting of Mendoza, Marc Hayes, Doug Martin, and Patrick Lizon will work with Ehinger to draft an answer to bring back to CMER in October for approval, and the whole packet will go to Policy for their October 31, 2019 meeting. Hayes seconded - **Approved**

Next Step: Hernandez will draft a memo to present to Policy at their October meeting as a placeholder.

LWAG

- ◆ ***Hard Rock Extended Phase II Report – approval to send to ISPR**

Hayes reported that the PIs had a meeting with Bell and Martin to address their comments and Mendoza disagreed with some of the wording. Bell remarked that he is comfortable with how the authors responded. Mendoza explained his concerns and edits were made to the scope of inference.

Mendoza motioned to approve the scope of inference edits, as well as the balance of the rest of the edits, and send the report to ISPR. Hayes seconded - **Approved**

- ◆ ***Hard Rock Extended Phase II Report – approval of additional ISPR question**
Mendoza remarked the he feels the additional question is already covered by CMER’s standard eight questions. Martin remarked that it is focused on the most important method in the temperature study. He remarked that Ehinger was okay with the extra question. Hayes remarked that he, Aimee McIntyre, and Reed Ojala-Barbour, along with Ehinger, reviewed the question and they are fine with it, and feel it adds more specificity. Mendoza remarked that his concern is that extra question may cause the reviewers to focus on one thing at the expense of the whole report. Ehinger is fine with it, but feels it is a little redundant. He feels it could be a subset of the other question. Mendoza feels it should be added as a subset of question one. Hicks remarked that this question adds specificity but be aware that not all reviewers are statistical experts. Ehinger suggested that only the temperature chapter reviewers receive this question. Mendoza suggested adding it to question one, with caveat that only the reviewer of the temperature chapter answer that question.

Mendoza moved to approve the extra question as a sub bullet under question one and direct it toward the reviewer of the temperature chapter. Hayes seconded - **Approved**

RSAG

- ◆ ***Hardwood Conversion Report – approval of findings report**
Murray reviewed the history of the findings report and reported that he, Bell, and Mendoza addressed all the issues except the feasibility question. The issue revolved around the temperature component. Mendoza suggested that the group review the one issue and ask questions about the rest if they have any. Bell described the reasoning behind the addition. The language change was reviewed, and revisions suggested.

Mendoza moved to approve the current version of the six questions, Nay: Baldwin, Debbie Kay, Mendoza and Patrick Lizon. Yes: Martin and Bell, abstain: Kroll and Hayes – **Not approved**

Next steps: Mendoza will send out the steps for guided decision-making under CMER’s dispute resolution process September 25, 2019.

- ◆ ***Extensive Temperature Report – approval of findings report**
Mendoza reported that he worked with Ehinger on his issues with the findings report and reviewed the changes. Martin remarked that he thinks there was a process foul, there was already an approved RSAG copy and would have liked to see the original RSAG copy, not a marked up and clean copy. Mendoza said he provided comments and they weren’t incorporated. Joe Murray remarked that the only comment he received was that Mendoza would not approve the document as written and had no comments to incorporate.

Mendoza questioned the process used for RSAG approval since half of RSAG members were not present and requested the meeting minutes.

The changes were reviewed and revisions made.

Mendoza moved to approve the submitted six questions as revised. Hayes seconded - **Approved**

◆ **Extensive Riparian Vegetation Monitoring Model Transferability Testing Report – Request for reviewers**

Joe Murray requested reviewers for the report. He reminded everyone that this was one of the studies added at the end of last fiscal year. Mendoza, Kay, and Lizon will review. Comments due by October 24, 2019 to Miskovic.

Updates:

◆ **Report from Policy – September 5, 2019 meeting**

No report given.

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>.

◆ **AMP Positions – update on EP5, EP4, CMER Eastside Scientist, and Administrative Assistant recruitments**

Hicks reported the Hernandez has resigned and DNR is recruiting for the EP5 position. Hernandez remarked that it was a hard decision but made for family reason. The EP5, EP4, and Eastside CMER Scientist positions are posted. Hicks is waiting for approval to post the Administrative Assistant position. Dave Schuett-Hames reported that they hired Janelle Black to replace him and she starts November 1, 2019.

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

No questions.

Public Comment

No public comment

Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- ◆ Comments on PSM Chapter 8 due to Teresa Miskovic by October 24, 2019. Revisions will be reviewed at the November meeting.
- ◆ ENREP project team answers to Policy's questions 2-4 approved.

- ◆ CMER sub-group will work with Bill Ehinger to answer ENREP question one and submit it to CMER at October 22, 2019 meeting for approval, and to send the whole packet to Policy for their October 31, 2019 meeting. Hernandez will draft a memo for a place holder for Policy at their October 31, 2019 meeting.
- ◆ Hard Rock Extended Phase II report approved, with revisions, to be sent to ISPR.
- ◆ Hard Rock Extended Phase II extra ISPR question approved as a sub bullet under question one to be directed toward the reviewer of the temperature chapter.
- ◆ Hardwood conversion six questions not approved. Mendoza will send out the guided decision-making process September 25, 2019.
- ◆ Extensive Temperature six questions document approved as revised.
- ◆ Extensive Riparian Vegetation Monitoring Model Transferability Testing Report reviewers: Chris Mendoza, Debbie Kay, and Patrick Lizon. Comments due to Teresa Miskovic by October 24, 2019.

Adjourned @ 1:25 pm