

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee
(CMER)
January 26, 2016
DNR/DOC Compound/Tumwater, WA**

| Attendees | Representing |
|-----------------------|--|
| Andrade, Charlene | Department of Natural Resources |
| §Baldwin, Todd (ph) | Kalispel Tribe – CMER Co-Chair |
| Beckett, Leah | Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff |
| §Bell, Harry | Green Crow |
| Berge, Hans | Department of Natural Resources - AMPA |
| chesney, Charles (ph) | Member of the Public |
| Danehy, Bob | NACASI |
| §Dieu, Julie (ph) | Rayonier |
| Ehinger, Bill | Department of Ecology |
| Haemmerle, Howard | Department of Natural Resources |
| Hayes, Marc | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife |
| §Hicks, Mark | Washington Department of Ecology |
| Hooks, Doug | WFPA – CMER Co-Chair |
| Knoth, Jenny | Green Crow |
| §Martin, Doug | Washington Forest Protection Association |
| §Mendoza, Chris | Conservation Caucus |
| §Mobbs, Mark | Quinalt Indian Nation |
| Murray, Joe | Merrill Ring |
| Roorbach, Ash | Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission |
| Schuett-Hames, Dave | Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff |
| Shramek, Patti | Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator |
| Stewart, Greg (ph) | Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff |
| Walter, Jason | Weyerhaeuser |

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

*Indicates Decision

Science Session

***Roads TWIG BAS Presentation - Approval to forward to Policy**

Howard Haemmerle gave a brief introduction on the project. Julie Dieu and Bob Danehy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the best available science recommendations and answered questions. Mark Hicks voiced his appreciation for the hard work that the TWIG did and that it has his support.

Howard Haemmerle requested approval to move the BAS document on to Policy - **Approved**

Doug Hooks encouraged CMER members to speak with their Policy representatives and educate them about the document before the TWIG presentation at the next Policy meeting.

Discussion of Future Science Session Topics

- ◆ **Dr. Brooke Penaluna and Nate Chelgren Rich PNW - eDNA**
- ◆ **Dr. Sherry Johnson – Development of Temperature Standards in Oregon**
- ◆ **Herbicide applications in forestry**
- ◆ **Fire Salvage BMPs – Are they effective – how are they being used?**

Bob Danehy gave a brief description of a project NCASI is working on regarding Environmental DNA.

RSAG Workplan – Review

Joe Murray reviewed the RSAG Work Plan changes – **Changes Approved**

UPSAG Workplan – Review

Julie Dieu reviewed the UPSAG Work Plan changes – **Changes Approved**

LWAG

- ◆ ***Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study – Basalt Lithologies (Hard Rock) – Approval of Chapter 6 (Large Woody Debris) to go to ISPR**
Charlene Andrade reported that the comment period closed and the reviewers were satisfied that their comments were incorporated. She requested approval to send to ISPR. Martin moved to approve, no objections - **Approved**

SAGE

- ◆ ***FHS Draft Findings Report – Approval of findings report for TFW Policy**
Chris Mendoza expressed his concerns that 4.viii was deleted. Doug Martin wanted clarification that the statement was not a part of the findings of the report, but a post analysis by Greg Stewart, and the whole analysis was not stated. Hooks stated that there were two choices, delete the statement, or go back and add more information to clarify it's not a direct finding of the report, but a post analysis by Greg Stewart. Mendoza and Martin worked on revising the language during the break. Hooks asked for a vote to approve the Findings Report with the revised language in 4.viii – **Approved**.

Updates:

Report from Policy – January 7 meeting

Doug Hooks reported that Policy covered the following at their January meeting:

- ◆ Policy Goals (Hooks will send Patti Shramek the list of Policy Goals)

- ◆ Legislative Session Review
- ◆ Dick Miller discussion – private business decision review
- ◆ Type F – electrofishing technical group will discuss 16 of the 40 questions and how to address the other questions.
- ◆ Policy vs. science – off channel habitat – a group of technical experts will be convened to answer questions.
- ◆ DNR is utilizing GIS to get numbers of water type modifications.
- ◆ UW working on water type model evaluation.
- ◆ Policy is working, at direction of the Board, on recommending a permanent water typing rule.
- ◆ What is recoverable habitat? (Mary Acker) definition, methods, and timelines. Caucus' asked to discuss and come back with their understandings of these.
- ◆ Forested Wetland TWIG problem statement, objectives, and critical questions approved.
- ◆ EWRAP report accepted.

Mid-year Projects Update

- ◆ Haemmerle reported that the RFQQ for the Eastside Modeling Evaluation Project should be posted by the end of the week.
- ◆ Haemmerle reported that the wetland modeling tool is in UW hands for finalization of the scope of work and schedule. It should be ready for final signature soon.
- ◆ Leah Beckett reported that the product for the research journal purchase is different than anticipated and it is not appropriate. Shed is looking for new sources.
- ◆ Roads TWIG equipment ready to purchase now that the BAS document is completed.

CMER

- ◆ ***CMER 2015 Accomplishments – update*** – comments due to Patti February 12.
- ◆ ***Protocols and Standards Manual Chapter 7 – update*** – Next meeting is February 11. Ready for CMER review in April.

LWAG

- ◆ ***Buffer Integrity/Shade Effectiveness Study – update***
Marc Hayes reported that he is wrapping up the comment incorporation (after three rounds of comments) and then the report will need to go back to ISPR.
- ◆ ***Van Dyke's Salamander– update***
Hayes reported that they have a background study plan and scope of work ready for the first phase with the exception of addressing late reviewer's concerns/comments. It should be ready for CMER review in February. Todd Baldwin stated that he didn't understand why they were working on a study plan when the only thing that Policy had approved

LWAG to move forward on was a Literature Review and that until Policy saw the results of the literature review, no other elements of the project could move forward.

◆ ***Hard Rock Chapter 15 (Amphibians) – update***

Charlene Andrade reported that Aimee McIntyre is working on incorporating comments and it should be ready to come to CMER in March or April for approval to send to ISPR. She provided a handout with the schedule of when CMER can expect to see other chapters. Hayes reminded everyone that there is a synthesis chapter that will be developed when everything else is completed.

RSAG

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

Joe Murray reported that Dr. Moskal came to the last RSAG meeting. They have collected all the data sets they needed and are looking at locating streams. They discussed how far up in watershed to go. RSAG decided to go up as high as possible. They are now moving into field protocols and developing field ranges. All work is in process or already planned for the future. A field trip will be done later in the spring to compare data with what is on the ground. A meeting is scheduled for February 24 with Berge, Haemmerle and Murray to go to UW and meet with them.

◆ ***Hardwood Conversion Study – update***

Haemmerle reported that half of the data collection is done and the second half will be done mid-February, then the QA/QC will be done in preparation for handing over to the author.

UPSAG

◆ ***Glacial Deep-Seated Landslide Project – Literature Synthesis – update***

Andrade reported that the literature review was kicked off at the January UPSAG meeting. M2 Environmental Services was the winning bidder and will be doing an extra literature data base with the review. The schedule is tight so there will be a short review time for CMER in order to give the contractor the time to do a robust review. UPSAG is proposing a joint SAG/CMER (May 17-May 31) review to truncate the review process. The synthesis should be ready for CMER approval in June. CMER Reviewers (Hayes).

TWIG

◆ ***ENREP TWIG – update***

Haemmerle reported that the draft study design went through CMER and most of the comments were resolved, except what prescriptions will be included in the study. Progress has been made and a revised study design will be drafted for CMER. An additional ENREP study evaluating the “seasonally dry” reaches will be developed this

year, and will include experimental elements to understand the effectiveness of current Forest Practices Rules for the Eastside. The TWIG will look at the study design to see where they can accommodate the new options. Gregg Stewart remarked that they weren't clear on their direction and that looking at two studies with different buffer widths would include replicates and the cost could go up. Haemmerle responded that the TWIG will be given clear understanding and direction of what is expected. Mendoza replied that Policy needs to be forced to land on a direction so the TWIG doesn't keep spinning its wheels. Bill Ehinger asked to have dialog with Policy, instead of direction, to hopefully have a better understanding on both sides of the ramifications of decisions. Todd Baldwin remarked that the new CMER staff person at UCUT is on and ready to get working on this project. Doug Martin agrees with Ehinger that Policy isn't clear and will just muddle it up. He wants clarification on what prescriptions will be in the studies and he is not sure Policy won't muddle it up. Everyone seems to agree that prescriptions are the underlining issue in keeping this from moving forward and that Policies feet need to be held to the fire to give clear direction on what they want studied.

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

Leah Beckett reported that now that the TWIG problem statement, objectives and critical questions have been approved they need to work on their best available science (BAS) alternatives. She asked for suggestions on how they should proceed in getting what Policies priorities are for this. Discussion revolved around how they should handle that.

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

Gregg Stewart reported that they have come up with alternatives and are working to flush them out right now. It will probably be a couple months (April/May) before CMER sees an alternatives document. They will be meeting again the week of February 29. They are using the Roads BAS as template.

◆ ***Type F Riparian Prescription – update***

Dave Schuett-Hames reported that the BAS alternative document was approved by Policy at the December meeting and the TWIG is now working on the study design phase. They need to initiate the first phase (FPA GIS analysis). They are looking for someone to go through the FPAs. He said he would like to have a draft out by summer.

Public Comment Period

Charles Chesney said he requests the December meeting minutes and has concerns with Dan Miller's response to Question 3 in the FHS recommendations to Policy. He will send the requests to Hans Berge.

CMER/SAG Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- ◆ Roads TWIG BAS approved.
- ◆ RSAG Work Plan changes approved.
- ◆ UPSAG Work Plan changes approved.
- ◆ Work Plan Attachment A will be added to Box for SAGs to update before next meeting.
- ◆ Type N Chapter 6 approved to move to ISPR.
- ◆ FHS recommendations doc approved with revisions.
- ◆ Send comments on Problem Statement, Objectives, Critical Questions, and BAS Policy response documents on the request process to Doug Hooks by February 12 so it can go out in the CMER mailing.
- ◆ Comments on the CMER Accomplishments document due to Patti Shramek by February 12 for February CMER mailing.
- ◆ Doug Hooks will share Policy's 2016 goals.
- ◆ Doug Hooks or Todd Baldwin will inform Policy of CMERs desire to remove the Link to Adaptive Management from the CMER Work Plan in the CMER update at the next Policy meeting.