

# Timber, Fish and Wildlife Policy Committee

Thursday, June 1, 2023 // 9:00AM – 12:45PM

Hybrid Meeting

In-Person: Ecology Building located at 300 Desmond Dr. SE, Lacey, WA 98503, Room# R1S-16/17

Virtual: Zoom (Link Listed Below)

Motions	
Motion	Move/Second (Vote)
<b>May 2023 Meeting Notes</b>  <b>Motion:</b> Ken Miller moved to approve the May 2023 meeting notes as amended.  The motion passed	<b>Seconded:</b> Brandon Austin <b>Up:</b> Brandon Austin, Court Stanley, Marc Engel, Tom O'Brien, Darin Cramer, Ken Miller, Cody Thomas, and Jim Peters. <b>Sideways:</b> Alec Brown

Action Items	
Action Items	Responsibility
Review the AFF Validation study and have comments and edits to Marc Engel by June 15 <sup>th</sup> .	TFW Policy voting members
Look into what needs to be done to possibly hire a facilitator and bring forward a suggestion(s) to full TFW Policy to review.	Budget Workgroup

## Updates:

- **Ground Rules:**
  - Brandon Austin read the below ground rules:
    - Ground Rule 10: Commitment to be an advocate for an agreed plan.
    - BM 22 Ground Rules – B (5) – It is the responsibility of each caucus to foster consensus among their caucus members.
- **Caucus Updates:**
  - Brandon Austin thanked Alec Brown for his contributions and participating in TFW Policy.
  - Jim Peters said that working with the CMER staff at the commission are communicating with the AMPA to hire a field technician.
  - Tom O'Brien announced that Darric Lowery has accepted a position as an Assistant Division Manager.
  - Tom O'Brien shared a link for good group decisions:  
<https://goodgroupdecisions.com/about-craig-and-good-group-decisions/>
- **Staff Updates:**
  - Jenelle Black introduced Elise Freeman as the new geomorphologist for NWIFC.
  - Lori Clark

- Rachel Rubin is coming back officially on August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Theryn Henkel EP5 position officially started today.
- Offering an AMP on-boarding virtual training for new AMP members (CMER, Policy, and AMP Staff). If you want the meeting link, email Lori. There will be a virtual AMP on-boarding video coming soon. This is to bridge the gap for the influx of new AMP members.

**CMER Updates:**

A.J. Kroll, CMER co-chair, reviewed the CMER SAG Updates document and what was discussed at last month's CMER meeting.

**Public Comments:**

No public comments

**Storytelling:**

Ken Miller told his story of how Small Forest Landowners care and matter. This was recorded and will be available on SharePoint.

**Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF) Validation Study:**

Lori Clark explained that there will an AMPA analysis sent out for TFW Policy consideration with the July meeting materials. It is shared with Policy for review. Marc will give an overview today, and the AMPA analysis will be completed for Policy's July meeting with a decision at the August meeting. Marc Engel introduced the Anadromous Fish Floor Validation Study and reviewed the document that was sent out as a late mailing. He also explained that this is a different process because, the staff created this PI, and it is being brought to TFW Policy to be courteous. There was a discussion on the timeline of approving this document. It was decided that TFW Policy members will review the AFF Validation Study and have comments and edits to Marc Engel by June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Budget – Master Project Schedule (MPS):**

Lori Clark reviewed the Budget – Master Project Schedule (MPS) updates. The Legislature approved the 2023-2025 biennium operating budget (SB 5187) on April 23, 2023. DNR fiscal analysts have been working on final control numbers of appropriation figures. These numbers will not be 100% certain until mid-June. \$1.6 million in Model Toxic Control Account (MTCA) was previously a source of revenue for the AMP and is no longer the case. The state allocated additional GF-S funding into the DNR FR division funding pool to be distributed to the AMP. Those funds did find their way to the AMP and are reflected in the MPS on row 75, GF-S AMP base admin funding. The FFSA amount was incorrect on the MPS version you received from Natalie on Monday with the late mailing. The correct amount is on row 76. And finally, the leg allocated \$ 1,674,835 in GF-S for the AMP and that is divided out equally between FY24 and FY25 on row 77. The adjusted MPS noted in red are the amounts for discussion with the policy budget workgroup. The revisions based on Project Managers working with Project Teams to refine project budgets are shown in red, and comments reflect the original amounts. There is one project expenditure added or row 67 and this was the Riparian Literature Synthesis project that Policy added in FY23 in response to a positive variance in the MPS. \$40K was added to invest in a lit syn. This amount of funding was enough to add to a current contract to get a literature synthesis, however it is not enough to finalize this in terms of bringing this into the formal CMER process with ISPR. If the intention is to get this literature synthesis finalized per the PSM, the Project Manager estimates that an additional \$137,310 will be needed for the SAG, CMER and ISPR review process during FY24. Another expenditure that is changed is that the Water Typing Strategy projects which were estimated to be \$1,134,600 on the FPB approved MPS in 2021. This number was reduced with the MPS adjustment in August 2022 because it was thought that this project would not keep on schedule given the complexity. However, this project is, in fact, on track and will be moving to implementation next year thus will need

the original amount projected for FY25. Given that this is a board priority, it is important to work on adjusting the MPS to ensure that we are covering the costs needed for this project to continue schedule. We need to make sure the MPS is fulfilling our commitment to the federal services regarding completion of our research with the window in the HCP. Lori will continue to work with the budget subcommittee to establish the budget adjustments needed and bring back the revised budget to Policy in July for consideration to approve to move to the FPB in August. Conversations need to be considered regarding the Field Tech position. In addition, the AFF validation study PI will need to be discussed with the budget workgroup to determine if there is a need for either funding or prioritizing staffing to accommodate a new project.

**Final Approved PHB Study Design Update:**

Anna Toledo gave a brief overview of the PHB Study Design, which received ISPR and final CMER approval, and the next steps, which will be site selection. Jason Walter explained that there was a presentation done on the Water Typing Studies at the May CMER Science Conference and the slides are available on the CMER website [Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation, and Research Committee | WA - DNR](#), that is the reasoning for not having a formal presentation today.

**Discussion on Facilitation:**

Court Stanley asked what Policy would like to do with possibly hiring a facilitator. Brandon explained that ECY has professional facilitator but is not aware of how to set it up for TFW Policy. Lori Clark explained, currently there is \$100K per year for Policy facilitation/mediation and CMER technical arbitration. The Triangle Associates expenses for FY22 was \$55,000 which includes 6 Disputes. We may need to utilize these funds to facilitate structured decision making as Policy continues to make recommended SAO improvements to the program. There is a round table agreement that the budget workgroup will work on this and bring forward their suggestion to full Policy.

**Caucus Conversations:**

Brandon Austin reviewed the information that he and Court gathered after meeting with each caucus individually.

**List of Attendees**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representing</b>
§Austin, Brandon	Ecology/TFW Policy Co-chair
§Cramer, Darin	Large Industrial Landowner Caucus/WFPA
§Engel, Marc	State Caucus/DNR
§Miller, Ken	Small Forest Landowner/WFFA
§O'Brien, Tom	State Caucus/WDFW
§Peters, Jim	Westside Tribes/NWIFC
§Stanley, Court	TFW Policy Co-chair/WSAC
§Thomas, Cody	Eastside Tribe Caucus/UCUT
§Vinh, Rico	Conservation Caucus
§Brown, Alec	Conservation Caucus
Black, Jenelle	CMER Staff
Bretherton, Welles	Department of Ecology CMER Voting Member
Church, Natalie	Administrative Assistant/DNR
Clark, Lori	Adaptive Management Administrator
Freeman, Elise	CMER Scientist
Glasgow, Jamie	Conservation Caucus

Hawkins, Tracy	DNR
Heimburg, John	WDFW
Knoth, Jenny	WFFA/CMER Co-chair
Kroll, A.J.	Weyerhaeuser/CMER Co-chair
Mitchell, Robert	Member of Public
Mobbs, Mark	Quinalt Indian Nation
Murray, Joe	RSAG Co-chair
Prescott, Alexander	Project Manager/DNR
Roberts, Dave	Small Forest Landowners
Roorbach, Ash	Westside Tribes/NWIFC
Schofield, Jenny	Project Manager/DNR
Smith, Kendra	Skagit County
Toledo, Anna	Project Manager/DNR
Walter, Jason	Weyerhaeuser
Zirkle, Karen	DNR

§TFW Policy Voting Member