

CMER SAG UPDATES

May 2023

WetSAG

Co-Chairs: Debbie Kay & Harry Bell

AMP Project Manager: Jenny Schofield (WMZ/FWEP)

Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project

- Spring field work has begun.
 - Tanner and Nate are continuing to validate site selection
 - West Fork Environmental, will be installing shallow ground water wells at the selected sites.
 - Installation is scheduled to be completed by the end of June.
- Contracting with AmTest for water quality analyses is currently being developed for FY 2024.
- The NWIFC is currently interviewing for a Field Technician.

Wetlands Management Zone

- At the March 2, 2023 Policy voted to send comments and revisions request to CMER. This document was returned during the March CMER meeting and edited during the April WetSAG meeting.
- WetSAG received the WMZ Charter for review following the March 2023 CMER meeting.
- WetSAG has created a comment matrix and edited the document in response to Policy's comments. This was approved at the April 2023 CMER meeting.
- Policy approved the WMZ Charter at the May 2023 meeting, with the expectation that any lingering questions and comments be addressed during the scoping process.

UPSAG

Chairs: Ted Turner & Mike Maudlin

AMP Project Manager: TBD

Deep-Seated Landslide Research Strategy

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Rachel Pirot, Anne Weekes

AMP Project Manager: TBD

- BGC presented to CMER on April 25th to provide an overview and answer questions on the DSL Study Design.
- UPSAG approved the DSL Study Design for CMER review. Four CMER reviewers were assigned to review the Study Design April 18-May 18, 2023.

Unstable Slope Criteria Project

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Dan Miller, Ted Turner, Jeff Keck

AMP Project Manager: TBD

- The Object-Based Landform Mapping with High-Resolution Topography Study report is currently being rewritten by the Criteria Project Team and UPSAG. Dan Miller is supporting the Project Team in making edits/revisions to the report moving forward. The report is now expected to be delivered to CMER in August 2023.
- The Study Design for Empirical Evaluation of Shallow Landslide Susceptibility and Frequency by Landform (Project 3) and Empirical Evaluation of Shallow Landslide Runout (Project 4) was approved by CMER on and delivered to ISPR on March 29th.

SAGE

Chair: Todd Baldwin

AMP Project Manager: Anna Toledo (ETHEP, ENREP), Jenny Schofield (Eastside Forest Health)

Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project (ETHEP)

- The ETHEP Study Design is in CMER review. The CMER reviewers are Harry Bell, Jenny Knoth, Debbie Key, and Aimee McIntyre. The authors have responded to CMER comments and have returned the document to the reviewers to determine if their comments have been adequately addressed.

Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP)

- Due to logistical complications, the landowner at Fish Creek anticipates the harvest will span two seasons (2023 and 2024). This may have some budgetary and timeline implications for the project. The Project Team is discussing these implications and will develop a recommendation for any proposed budgetary and timeline adjustments.
- The Project Team is discussing the possibility of a project extension. Any proposed changes to timeline and budget will be brought to SAGE for discussion.
- The Project Team is working with the landowner at Coxit to determine how to handle any trees that remain outside the RMZ post-harvest. Coxit is scheduled for harvest in summer 2023.
- A joint TFW Policy and CMER field trip to ENREP sites is planned for Wednesday, September 27.

Eastside Forest Health Strategy

- The Eastside Forest Health Strategy document was discussed at the July 2022 Policy meeting and a motion was passed to reconvene the TFW Policy Eastside Forest Health Strategy workgroup.
- The TFW Policy workgroup (Brandon Austin, Darin Cramer, Cody Thomas, and Ken Miller) is engaging SAGE and CMER with the intent to finalize the strategy guidance to bring forward to Policy.
 - The TFW Policy workgroup met on October 28, 2022, and met with Todd Baldwin for language clarification on January 19th. It went back to Policy in February and was a decision item on the Policy agenda for March 2023.
- 3/2/2022 Policy Motion:

- Cody Thomas moved to approve the Eastside Forest Health Strategy Document to be CMER for inclusion into the CMER work plan as a strategy to inform studies developed on the Eastside.
 - Friendly Amendment:
 - Move to approve the Eastside Forest Health Strategy document without appendix A and B to be sent to CMER to inform full strategy development and eventual scoping of studies.
 - Cody Thomas and Tom O’Brien accepted friendly amendment.
 - The motion passed
- CMER received the Policy approved version of the Eastside Forest Health Strategy at the March 2023 meeting.

RSAG

Chair: Joe Murray

AMP Project Managers: Anna Toledo (RCS, Riparian Function Literature Synthesis), Alexander Prescott (Westside Type F, Extensive Monitoring)

*Possible field trip in July 10-12, 2023 with WetSAG.

Riparian Characteristics and Shade Response Study

- Rachel Rubin is on leave through July 2023. Lila Westreich and Mark Teply are helping while she is on leave.
- Lila and Mark are working on identifying potential sites for implementation in 2024.
- The Prospective 6 Questions document is in CMER review. The document was not approved at the April CMER meeting. CMER reviewers have provided additional comments, which the Project Team will address and return to CMER for approval.

Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Effectiveness Project

- The Final Exploratory Report was approved by CMER and was sent to ISPR for review. The project team received the ISPR response on January 25th. Revisions, including a clean and markup version of the revised report as well as comments matrix were due back to ISPR by 3/10/23. Unfortunately, **this deadline was not met and submission back to ISPR has been significantly delayed, with a revised submission target date of May 26.**

Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring – Riparian Vegetation and Stream Temperature, Type F/N Westside and Eastside Project

- A presentation on the past 20 years and future looking next steps on CMER’s extensive monitoring efforts was given at the 2023 CMER Science Conference by Jenelle Black.
- In the April ExMo Project Team meeting, the team met with Watershed DGC, the data assessment contractor, to evaluate their proposed research framework. The project team also continued work on the Charter, which they anticipate approving in May and subsequently sending to RSAG and CMER for review and approval.

Riparian Function Literature Synthesis

- University of Idaho is working on the literature synthesis. It is expected to be delivered to RSAG in June 2023.

ISAG

Co-Chair: Jason Walter

AMP Project Manager: Anna Toledo

Water Typing Strategy

- Projects currently included in the Water Typing Strategy are: Potential Habitat Breaks (PHB), Default Physical Criteria Assessment (DPC), LiDAR Based Water Typing Model (LiDAR), and Fish/HabitatDetection Using eDNA (eDNA).
- The PHB Study Design was approved by ISPR. Approved by CMER at May 2023 CMER meeting.
- The DPC Project Team is working on the DPC Study Design and expects to initiate concurrent CMER/ISAG review in summer 2023.
- ISAG is working on updating the PHB project charter and developing a DPC project charter. Once approved by ISAG, the charters will be sent to CMER.
- Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. is supporting ISAG with statistical consultation for the PHB and DPC Study Designs. Field implementation is scheduled to begin in FY24, including field reconnaissance.
- ISAG is looking for a new Co-Chair.

LWAG

Co-Chairs: AJ Kroll & Aimee McIntyre AMP

Project Manager: Jenny Schofield

Hard Rock

- The Phase III Amphibian Demographics project is in implementation. The first of two field seasons of amphibian demographic sampling has been completed at all historic Type N Study sites.
- Field work to support the second amphibian demographic sampling season will begin in July 2023.

Discontinuous Np Surface Flows

- The Scoping Document is under development Spring 2023, with anticipated delivery to CMER in Summer 2023. Two documents are being drafted: Best Available Science document and Scoping Document.
- The Charter will be updated to reflect Project Team changes and any other relevant changes, including updating the timeline.

Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Charlie Luce, Tom Black, Erkan Istanbuluoglu, Amanda Alvis, Jenelle Black.

AMP Project Manager: Alexander Prescott

- A presentation on the Roads Project's Ditchline Hydraulics Parametrization Experiment was given at the 2023 CMER Science Conference by Amanda Alvis.
- The Roads project team continued to implement the main experiment this month as well as take further steps in developing the Cost vs. Maintenance Survey.
- Numerous contracts for FY 24-25 are in development and will be executed by the end of this current FY.

Anticipated Documents for CMER Consideration/Review Next 12 Months						
Project Name	Document Type	Project Manager	Science Lead/PI	Oversight Committee	Original Anticipated Date	Anticipated Date of Delivery
Unstable Slopes Criteria Project - Landform Mapping	Final Report	TBD	TBD *Jenelle Black	UPSAG	February 2023	September 2023
Westside Type F Exploratory Report	CMER Six Questions Document	Prescott	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	Jun-23	TBD
PHB	ISPR-Approved Study Design	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Jun-23	May-23
PHB	Project Charter	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Jul-22	Jun-23
DPC	Project Charter	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Jul-22	Jun-23
DPC	Study Design	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Feb-23	Aug-23
Discontinuous Np Surface Flows	Scoping	Schofield	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Sept -22	Summer-23
RCS	Prospective 6 Questions	Toledo	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	RSAG	Mar-23	May-23
ETHEP	Study Design	Toledo	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	SAGE	May-23	Jun-23
Extensive Monitoring	Project Charter	Prescott	TBD	RSAG	Oct-22	Jun-23
WMZ	Scoping	Schofield	Tanner Williamson (CMER)	WestSAG		August-23
* Policy Initiated Items- Not following CMER' Protocols and Standards Manual						