

# CMER SAG UPDATES

April 2024

## WetSAG

Co-Chairs: Debbie Kay & Harry Bell

AMP Project Manager: Jenny Schofield (WMZ/FWEP)

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### Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project

- Field work is ongoing.
  - Data downloads, data QAQC and water quality analysis from instrumented sites is ongoing and will continue for the next two water years.
  - Hemispherical photography is complete for 2023, will be repeated in summer 2024.
  - WetSAG is completing the contracting process with Meadow Run Environmental to conduct forest and vegetation surveys.

### Wetlands Management Zone

- 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.
- Scoping is ongoing, WetSAG has reviewed the first draft. Authors are continuing to develop the document based on current feedback from WetSAG.

## UPSAG

Chairs: Jennifer Parker & Mike Maudlin

AMP Project Manager: Theryn Henkel

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### Deep-Seated Landslide Research Strategy

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Rachel Pirot, Anne Weekes, Elise Freeman, Jennifer Parker

AMP Project Manager: Theryn Henkel

- The DSL Mapping and Landform Classification Study Design received final approval at the March CMER meeting.
- The Project Team has drafted the Prospective 6 Questions document, received final approval from UPSAG in April, asking for approval at April CMER meeting.
- PT is beginning to develop the RFQQ for implementation of the Study Design. Theryn is preparing a draft for PT revision and review, will discuss at the next PT meeting.

### Unstable Slope Criteria Project

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Dan Miller, Ted Turner, Jeff Keck, Elise Freeman, Susan Shaw, Tiffany Justice

AMP Project Manager: Theryn Henkel

- The Object-Based Landform Mapping with High-Resolution Topography Study mapping is ongoing. Analysis comparing manual mapping to computer mapping has begun. Project is delayed due to the manual mapping. Progress is being made. Do not currently have a new deadline for a revised report.
- Implementation has begun on 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) received final approval at the September CMER meeting.

## SAGE

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Chair: Todd Baldwin

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

### Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project (ETHEP)

- The ISPR-approved study design was approved by CMER in November and delivered to Policy in December. Ben Spei presented an overview of the project to Policy.
- The Prospective Six Questions document was delivered to TFW Policy at the April meeting.
- Project Management Plan is being developed and expected delivery to SAGE at the May meeting.
- The project team is assembling datasets and setting up the landscape classification analysis workflow.

### Eastside Forest Health Strategy

- SAGE is currently working to develop the full Eastside Forest Health Strategy after approval of strategy guidance document in Spring 2023.
  - Rachel is continuing to gathering literature and geospatial datasets for a desktop analysis.

### Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP)

- The Fish Creek harvest will be completed in 2024, a year later than originally planned, due to logistical complications with the harvest. SAGE and CMER approved the Project Team recommendation to extend monitoring at Fish Creek for one additional year to collect two post-harvest years of data, as indicated in the Study Design.
- The Project Team presented a memo to SAGE recommending a limited project extension across all sites, monitoring a reduced suite of variables. SAGE approved these recommendations and sent them to CMER. A motion to approve the recommendations did not pass at the March CMER meeting. CMER agreed to revisit the discussion at their April meeting.

## RSAG

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Chair: Joe Murray

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

### Riparian Characteristics and Shade Response Study

- PI Rachel Rubin and the PM are coordinating with Weyerhaeuser for implementation at two sites

within the Northwest Coast ecoregion this spring/summer. Plot layout and tree inventory have been completed at both sites. The PI and PM are also coordinating with a contractor to conduct LiDAR flights and analysis at both sites.

### 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 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Revisions, including a clean and markup version of the revised report, comment matrix, and summary letter were due back to ISPR by 3/10/23. This due date, and multiple subsequent targeted due dates have not been met and the report continues to be significantly delayed. The project team intended to complete and resubmit the necessary documents back to ISPR by end of the 2023, however that deadline was not met. A new deadline was proposed in the March RSAG Meeting. A draft will be completed for PT and PM review by March 26<sup>th</sup>. A final draft, and a complete ISPR response document, was submitted to ISPR the week of April 8<sup>th</sup>.

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

- The ExMo Project Team continues to make headway on scoping the project through preliminary GIS analyses, conversations of fundamental design criteria, and evaluating critical questions and the measurements necessary to provide scientifically robust answers.
- At the February FP Board meeting, a recommendation was made to hire an interim-PI to see this project through the Scoping process. Jeff Robbins from the Department of Ecology was vetted and chosen by the project team to take on this role as he has both the capacity and expertise to contribute.
- RSAG approved Jeff as the interim-PI at their March meeting and formally notified CMER in the April 2024 meeting.

### Riparian Function Literature Synthesis

- The Riparian Function Literature Synthesis is in RSAG review. RSAG provided initial comments on August 11, 2023. The authors responded to comments and returned the document to RSAG in December 2023. RSAG identified comments that had not been adequately addressed and returned the document with follow-up comments to the authors in January 2024. The authors addressed the follow-up comments and returned the document to RSAG in March. The RSAG reviewers are identifying any remaining comments that have not been adequately addressed and will return the document to the authors in mid-April.

## ISAG

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Co-Chair: Jason Walter

AMP Project Manager: Anna Toledo

### Anadromous Fish Floor

- In December 2023, CMER directed ISAG to work on a technical summary for TFW Policy that clarifies how the AFF Validation Study would best fit as a companion or add-on study to the

existing PHB Study. The Project Team developed the requested technical summary, which was approved by ISAG, CMER, and TFW Policy.

### 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 Project Team is working on desktop site selection. The Project Team has also made outreach to gauge the interest and availability of potential PI candidates.
- The DPC Project Team is working on the DPC Study Design and expects to initiate concurrent CMER/ISAG review in spring 2024.
- Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. is supporting ISAG with statistical consultation for the PHB and DPC Study Designs.
- ISAG is looking for a new Co-Chair.

### LWAG

Co-Chairs: AJ Kroll & Aimee McIntyre AMP  
Project Manager: Jenny Schofield

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### Hard Rock

- Preliminary analyses to support report development have been completed.
- Report development is in progress.
- Anticipated delivery of report to CMER for review in September 2024.

### Discontinuous Np Surface Flows

- The project team is continuing to develop the Scoping Document
- Anticipated delivery of scoping document to CMER for review in June/July 2024.

### Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring

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

AMP Project Manager: Alexander Prescott

- The Project Team has continued to develop the 2024 interim report. In the April 2024 CMER meeting, the project team intends to seek an extension for the due date, from June 2024 to August 2024.
- The PT has completed revising the Sediment Trap Efficiency Experiment Detailed Implementation Plan, submitting the revised SIP to CMER in the April 2024 meeting.
- The PI and other members of the Project Team, principally Mrs. Alvis, a UW doctoral candidate, are writing a paper discussing the results of the Roads Prescription-Scale Effectiveness

Monitoring Project's Road Micro-Topography Evolution parameterization experiment. This paper, currently entitled Temporal evolution of forest road micro-topography and flow pathways, discusses using unoccupied aerial vehicle (UAV) structure-from-motion (SfM) technology to examine how wheel ruts evolve on mainline logging roads following road grading and the implications of said rut formation on the road surface drainage system. This paper will be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal by June 2024 at the latest (exact journal and date TBD). A data use notification will be shared with CMER in the 2023 meeting.

- The PT is in the early stages of collaborating with Neptune and Company, Inc (using the AMP Statistician Contract) to develop a work order to process traffic camera and count data using machine learning. This effort is ongoing as we explore novel, AI supported approaches, to classify hundreds of thousands of traffic camera photos.
- The PT is working on executing a new access agreement for some of our project sites after a land ownership change as well as extending existing access agreements.
- The PT continues to work on numerous data analyzation efforts related to microtopography, flow imputation, flow calibration, turbidity, suspended sediment concentration, etc.
- The PT continues to evaluate our 78 field sites as we make maintenance and treatment change plans ahead of the annual summer maintenance.
- The PT continues to work with the PC region as we prep for annual road maintenance starting May 1<sup>st</sup>.

<b>Anticipated Documents for CMER Consideration/Review Next 12 Months</b>						
<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Science Lead/PI</b>	<b>Oversight Committee</b>	<b>Original Anticipated Date</b>	<b>Anticipated Date of Delivery</b>
Unstable Slopes Criteria Project - Landform Mapping	Final Report	Henkel	Elise Freeman (CMER)	UPSAG	Feb- 2023	TBD
Westside Type F Exploratory Report	Final ISPR-Approved Report	Prescott	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	Mar-23	TBD
Westside Type F Exploratory Report	CMER Six Questions Document	Prescott	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	Mar-23	TBD
DPC	Study Design	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Feb-23	June-24
Discontinuous Np Surface Flows	Scoping	Schofield	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Sept -22	June-24
Extensive Monitoring	Scoping Document	Prescott	TBD	RSAG	Dec-24	Dec-24
Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring	Interim Report/Presentation	Prescott	Jenelle Black (CMER)	CMER	Jun-24	Jun-24
WMZ	Scoping	Schofield	Tanner Williamson (CMER)	WetSAG	May-24	TBD
Riparian Function Literature Synthesis	Literature Synthesis	Toledo	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	RSAG	Oct-23	May-24
Deep-Seated Landslide Research Strategy	Revised Study Design	Henkel	Elise Freeman (CMER)	UPSAG	July- 23	Mar – 24
Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project	Project management Plan	Schofield	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	SAGE	March-24	May-24
<b>* Policy Initiated Items- Not following CMER' Protocols and Standards Manual</b>						