

Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Committee

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 // 9:00AM – 3:45PM

Virtual Meeting

Motions	
Motion	Move/Second (Vote)
<p>December 2025 Meeting Minutes</p> <p>Motion: Danielle Miles moved to approve the December 2025 meeting minutes.</p> <p>The motion passed.</p>	<p>Seconded: Welles Bretherton</p> <p>Up: Aimee McIntyre, Welles Bretherton, Chris Mendoza, Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Debbie Kay), Danielle Miles, Mark Mobbs, Harry Bell, Julie Dieu, A.J. Kroll, Mark Meleason, Hans Berge, Bill Vogel and Doug Martin</p> <p>Down:</p> <p>Abstain:</p> <p>Absent:</p>
<p>Discontinuous Flow Study Design Approval</p> <p>Motion: Danielle Miles moved to approve Discontinuous Flow Study Design.</p> <p>The motion failed.</p>	<p>Seconded: A.J. Kroll</p> <p>Up: Mark Meleason, Danielle Miles, Mark Mobbs, Bill Vogel, Welles Bretherton, Aimee McIntyre, Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Debbie Kay), Julie Dieu, A.J. Kroll</p> <p>Down: Chris Mendoza - Not incorporating the newly adopted (November 2025) Type Np rule by the FP Board into the study design</p> <p>Abstain: Harry Bell, Hans Berge, Doug Martin (Sideways due to method inaccuracies, such as how sampling strategy will influence strength of inferences about water temperature and amphibian use)</p> <p>Absent:</p>
<p>Final Approval of ISPR-approved OBIA</p> <p>Motion: Aimee McIntyre moved to approve ISPR-approved OBIA.</p> <p>The motion passed.</p>	<p>Seconded: Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Debbie Kay)</p> <p>Up: Aimee McIntyre, Welles Bretherton, Chris Mendoza, Ash Roorbach (Proxy for Debbie Kay), Danielle Miles, Mark Mobbs, A.J. Kroll, Mark Meleason, Hans Berge, Bill Vogel and Doug Martin, Harry Bell</p> <p>Down:</p>

	<p>Abstain: Julie Dieu (author)</p> <p>Absent:</p>
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Action Items	
Action Items	Responsibility
By Friday, January 30 th . CMER members let Ash know if they want to participate in a work group to update the PSM Guided Decision Making (dispute resolution) section. And let Danielle know if you are interested in participation in a work group to update the PSM Outside Science/Non-CMER Science section of the PSM.	CMER members
Check the CMER meeting materials hyperlinked on the CMER website.	Sebastian
Work with Compass about supporting CMER with SL-1 starting w/ Fines in Gravel	Lori/Theryn

Welcome, Introductions, & Old Business

Ash Roorbach, CMER co-chair, took roll call.

Ground Rules

- Stay on topic.
- Be concise and to the point.

Staff Updates

- Lori provided an update on the Type Np Hardrock Phase 3 arbitration. It took longer than anticipated to get the arbitration team together. The arbitration team has been formed with a Project Leader and two Dispute Team members. The team began working together on Tuesday January 20. They are working toward a deadline of Tuesday February 17 for submission to DNR of their written tentative decision. Lori will organize an online meeting between the Dispute Team and the CMER parties between February 17 and March 3. Within one week following that meeting, the CMER parties must submit in writing any specific technical concerns or follow up technical questions they have with the tentative decision. At the latest this would be by March 10 but could be earlier depending on the date of the group meeting. Within ten days of receiving the CMER technical concerns/questions, the Dispute Team will issue in writing their final decision. The latest date would be March 20.
- Bill Vogel shared that he is teaching a Forestry and Silviculture for Biologists in the PNW in Wenatchee on April 6 as part of the WA chapter of The Wildlife Society and the WA and BC chapter of the American Fisheries Society annual meetings being held jointly this year ([AFS- Washington British Columbia Chapter – WA-BC Chapter of the American Fisheries Society](#)).
- CMER is formally invited to attend the TFW Policy meeting on February 5th to hear a presentation from the co-authors of the Four Studies of the Washington Forest Practices Adaptive

Management Program study conducted by WDFW. This presentation will be from 9:45am-1:00pm.

- 2025 AMP Accomplishments document was included in the CMER mailing. It will be posted to the AMP website.
- Ash requested CMER participants to join a work group to update the PSM Dispute Resolution process. Danielle will lead a group to update/add definitions in outside science section.

Review Last Month Action Items

- Submit draft language to modify SL-1 Fines in Gravel to Theryn
- Group will meet to revise Jenelle's prioritization table & submit modified table to AMP Staff
 - Both topics are included in today's agenda

No Public Comments

TFW Policy Updates

- TFW Policy did not meet in January.

fpOnline Presentation

Carla Fosberg is the Product Owner for fpOnline. She ensures the software meets business needs which in this case is the permitting system. Carla was joined by John McEntyre (Mack), the FP Operations Assistant Division Manager, to present an update on the fpOnline project, which will replace FPARS for FPAs and WTMFs. Carla took over the fpOnline project from Donelle Mahan. Many decisions about the development of this product happened before Carla took over as the product owner. fpOnline will allow better reporting capability. Carla shared that landowners may continue to submit paper forms, and DNR will provide continuous technical support for those unfamiliar with the program.

Discontinuous Flow Study Design Approval

Jenny Schofield introduced the agenda topic. LWAG is requesting CMER approval of the study design and send it to ISPR. CMER review period went through December 19th. Authors offered meetings to the 4 CMER reviewers (only 3 agreed) to address outstanding red comments/suggestions for edits. Aimee summarized the process of addressing CMER reviewer's comments, including one-on-one conversations with those concerned. Bill shared history in research that ultimately led to this study and their decision to only include first order streams, but shared concerns related to potential lack of value of collecting data on temperature. Harry still had 4-5 issues with the documents, though many of his original comments were resolved. He questioned why variability in the Olympic region is not concerning (East to West, for example) and is skeptical about measuring tree crowns related to shade, but wants ISPR to weigh in. Doug's biggest concern is the disconnect between study approach and critical questions, specifically the questions related to how amphibians are connected to Np reaches. He compared the upper reaches in coastal areas streams to those in the Southwest and Cascades and likely under sampling the number of amphibians in Np zones. Doug believes that the sample design on a spatial scale will have low probability of answering the critical questions the study aims to address and does not take into account seasonal variability. Aimee clarified that the focus is on the entirety of the first order stream and is also focused on the westside of the state, in addition to reiterating that authors scoped this to focus only on 1st order streams, defined early on and approved by both CMER and Policy as a part of that scoping. Related to temperature, Welles added clarity to differences in moving and shifting temperature sensors including that they will not be moving sensors in dry streams, and by deploying sensors during the summer low flow to

minimize the chances of needing to "shift" them later. If a shift is needed, it would be down into flow from higher on the bank, not up or down stream. Jenelle proposed adding an additional question which addresses ability to answer critical questions, characterize strength/confidence of study design. Mark addressed the significance that this study compliments Extensive Monitoring and that the risks raised by those concerns have been considered by the design authors. The vote failed with Chris Mendoza voting down. Aimee called dispute due to an impasse in approval of the study design and submitting it to ISPR. An informal meeting (the first step in the dispute resolution process) is scheduled February 10th to determine if the dispute(s) can be resolved. The goal is to address Chris' concern that the study design does not incorporate the new rule and should be included in extensive monitoring. Chris' down vote was due to the author's not incorporating the newly adopted (November 2025) Type Np rule by the FP Board into the study design

An informal meeting (the first step in the dispute resolution process) will be scheduled quickly to discuss Chris' outstanding comments.

Final Approval of ISPR-approved OBIA

Theryn Henkel presented the OBIA Final Report for Final CMER approval post-ISPR. Chris raised concern that SAG does not approve post-ISPR and proposed to adjust language and "SAG request" will be revised to indicate that this request is not coming from the SAG as they do not have a role in approval after ISPR approves a document. Theryn indicated in the chat that she will work on a new template request for final approval that addresses Chris' concerns. The voted passed.

Roads Data Use Notification

Alexander Prescott and Charles Luce quickly presented documentation for a Roads Project Data Use Notification, regarding the use of data collected during the Short Time-Scale parameterization experiment in a paper discussing some of the experiment's results and implications (currently entitled Pumped Fine Sediment from Heavy Vehicle Traffic on Gravel Roads). The document included relevant tables to produce a peer-reviewed journal article using data collected from a sub-experiment in the Roads Project. If the paper is published, it will be included as part of the final report. One CMER member asked if this paper discussed sediment delivery to streams, Charlie clarified to members that this specific paper/study element does not include delivery of particles at this stage, but that will be discussed in the larger main study final report. This is simply a notification to members.

Schedule L-1: Discuss Fines in Gravel Performance Target & Next Steps

Theryn shared in opening that lots of discussion has occurred throughout the last month and opened discussion to members. She presented proposed rewritten language for performance target, as concerns were raised at December's CMER meeting. Aimee summarized the changes made to the performance measure name and target, discussed by a subgroup between meetings and rewritten in Document 14 for reference. Doug raised concerns regarding a lack of baseline, measuring techniques, spatial/temporal dynamics not concerned, and inconsistencies in language. Bill expressed concern for language of "in-stream" gravel and an "arbitrary baseline", though a performance target (PT) focused on N waters is helpful. Danielle recommended a return period to better understand fines' impact over years. Mark Mobbs questioned the shift to type N waters and shared Doug and Bill's concerns in simply finding elevated fines in gravel in spawning ground. Aimee recommended adding pre-harvest site-level conditions to clarify spatial and temporal scope relative to the baseline conditions, but by not including a PT for fines in Type N streams, value is lost and it becomes tough to evaluate success. Mark Meleason recommended pulling more from the SME reports to guide decision-making. Nearing the end of discussion, Theryn

raised the point that consensus is not being reached and questioned what next steps should look like. Lori recommended and members agreed to take SME recommendations and use Structured Decision Making to assist CMER in creating a process to resolve impasses that have stopped Fines in Gravel from moving forward and will translate to the other performance targets that are up for revision.

CMER Prioritization Discussion

Chris, Danielle, Ash, and Harry met to discuss updates to the prioritization worksheet that Jenelle shared in October for CMER consideration. Chris presented the suggested changes, and the spreadsheet will be available to CMER members on SharePoint. Subgroup will be seeking full CMER approval of prioritization at the next meeting.

CMER SAG Updates

Each SAG reviewed the CMER SAG updates document. Chris shared a personnel update: Conservation Caucus has hired a new representative for UPSAG, Greg Stewart.

List of Attendees

Attendees	Representing
§ Bell, Harry	Washington Farm Forestry Association
§ Berge, Hans	UCUT – Eastern Washington Tribes
§ Bretherton, Welles	Department of Ecology
§ Dieu, Julie	Washington Farm Forestry Association
§ Roorbach, Ash	Proxy for Debbie Kay; CMER Co-Chair/Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
§ Kroll, A.J.	Washington Forest Protection Association
§ Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
§ McIntyre, Aimee	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
§ Meleason, Mark	Counties Caucus
§ Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus
§ Miles, Danielle	Department of Natural Resources/CMER Co-chair
§ Mobbs, Mark	Quinault Nation – Western Washington Tribes
§ Vogel, Bill	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Belleveau, Lisa	Skokomish Tribe
Black, Jenelle	NWIFC CMER Scientist
Clark, Lori	DNR – Adaptive Management Program Administrator
Freeman, Elise	NWIFC CMER Scientist
Greenwood, Emma	Spokane Tribe
Heimburg, John	WDFW Habitat Program
Henkel, Theryn	DNR Supervisory Project Manager
Holy, Shae	Skokomish Tribe
Johnston, Sidney	Member of the Public
Kautz, Kyle	Nisqually Tribe
Lower, Adam	Chehalis Tribe

Morris, Greg	Yakama Nation
Murray, Joe	Washington Forest Protection Association
Pavlik, Robert	CMER Scientist
Prescott, Alexander	DNR Project Manager
Rubin, Rachel	DNR CMER Scientist
Schofield, Jenny	DNR Project Manager
Terry, Christopher	Quinault Tribe
Toledo, Anna	DNR Project Manager
Whelan, Sebastian	DNR – Adaptive Management Program Coordinator
Williamson, Tanner	CMER Scientist

§ CMER Voting Member