

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee
(CMER)
December 15, 2015
DNR/DOC Compound/Tumwater, WA**

Attendees	Representing
Andrade, Charlene	Department of Natural Resources
§Baldwin, Todd	Kalispel Tribe – CMER Co-Chair
Beckett, Leah	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
§Bell, Harry	Green Crow
Berge, Hans	Department of Natural Resources - AMPA
§Dieu, Julie (ph)	Rayonier
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
Jaspers, Kodi Jo (ph)	Colville Confederated Tribes
§Kay, Debbie	Suquamish Tribe
Knoth, Jenny	Green Crow
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus
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

***WetSAG Work Plan - Review**

Debbie Kay reviewed the updates to the WetSAG Work Plan and made revisions based on group discussion.

Todd Baldwin moved to approve the revisions to the WetSAG Work Plan - **Approved**

Decisions:

SAGE

- ◆ ***EWRAP** – approval of six questions to send to Policy

Kodi Jo Jaspers requested approval of the six questions to go to Policy. Doug Martin suggested a clarification on the finding. Discussion revolved around the appropriate time to bring up modification as the document had already gone through the comment period.

Todd Baldwin motioned to approve, Chris Mendoza seconded. - **Approved**

Updates:

Report from Policy – December 3 meeting

Doug Hooks reported:

- Policy will be reviewing one Timber, Fish, and Wildlife Ground rule a month – each Policy member picks gets a month to pick one ground rule and Policy will review it.
- Most of the time in the meeting was spent on Type F issues.
- West Side Type F Technical Writing Implementation Group (TWIG) Best Available Science (BAS) document was approved.
- Reviewed the changes in the Lean document.
- Discussion on need for template documents for communications from Policy to CMER.

CMER

◆ **CMER 2015 Accomplishments - update**

Howard Haemmerle and Patti Shramek will work on the CMER Accomplishments document and get it to Scientific Advisory Groups (SAGS) the week of December 21.

◆ **Protocols and Standards Manual (PSM) Chapter 7 – update**

Ash Roorbach reported that the work group is working on a communications tool (effective communication) for Chapter 7 in the PSM. Their next meeting is January 8, 2016.

LWAG

◆ **Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study – Basalt Lithologies (Hard Rock) – update**

Charlene Andrade reported that Chapters 8-11 have been through Independent Scientific Peer Review (ISPR) and the authors are working on the response to comments. A comment matrix has been developed to go back to ISPR. The Large Woody Debris Chapter was sent to CMER for 30 day review. The Amphibian and Synthesis chapters still need to go to ISPR. Doug Martin asked about reviewing the ISPR comment for Chapters 8-11. Discussion revolved around the pros and cons of doing this. The chapters will be sent out to the core CMER members.

Work is continuing on the 2016 field methods, some harvesting is going to be done in 2016. Aimee McIntyre will be giving an update on the change of field methods in February.

- ◆ **Buffer Integrity/Shade Effectiveness Study – update**
The Principle Investigators (PIs) are working on the workgroup edits. They will be working with ISPR on the issues and the document will be ready to go back to ISPR the week of December 21.
- ◆ **Work Plan** – Revisions to the Work Plan are in process.

RSAG

- ◆ **Remote Sensing Pilot Project – update**
Joe Murray reported that project has started and that the Interagency Agreement with the University of Washington is being finalized for the signature process. Howard Haemmerle reported that Doctor Moskal has been out of the country for the past couple weeks so the project has slowed.
- ◆ **Hardwood Conversion Study – update**
Haemmerle reported that Ash Roorbach won't be able to author the report since he took over for Nancy Sturhan's position at the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. The field work has started on the 2016 re-sample and should be completed in February. Options are being explored for a new author for the re-write to include the new field data and analysis.
- ◆ **Work Plan** - updates are finished will be presented at the January CMER meeting.

UPSAG

- ◆ **Glacial Deep-Seated Landslide Project – Literature Synthesis – update**
Charlene Andrade reported that the contractor has been selected by the evaluation committee and will go to UPSAG December 16 for final approval. The contract should be signed and ready to go mid-January.
- ◆ **Work Plan** – Committee members are individually working on different parts. Anticipated having ready for CMER review in January. Trevor is moving to DGER and doesn't know if will be able to continue on SAG.

SAGE

- ◆ **Forest Hydrology Study - update**
Findings Report revisions are being made and will come to CMER for approval in January.

TWIG

- ◆ **ENREP TWIG (Design) – update**
Haemmerle reported that the TWIG meet on December 10 with 4 of 5 commenters to work through discussions on the two sections of the document that have dispute to try to come to resolution between the TWIG and commenters. They could not come to resolution on the treatments to be studied. The study design is not ready to be moved forward and will need to go to Policy for resolution on the issue. Discussion revolved around whether or not the BAS was accurate and if Policy will get an unbiased update.

Haemmerle questioned whether this should go to Policy now, as it may end up going to dispute resolution once it gets to CMER anyway.

***Decision** - go to Policy to seek resolution.

◆ **Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project TWIG (Scope) – update**

Haemmerle reported that the TWIG problem statement, critical questions, and objectives were not approved by Policy and sent back to the TWIG for revisions. TWIG is working on making changes to take back to Policy for approval at the January meeting. Mendoza suggested that a presentation might be good. Discussion revolved around how best to present to Policy.

◆ **Unstable Slopes Criteria TWIG (BAS) – update**

Haemmerle reported that the TWIG has met once following approval of the problem statement and critical questions. The next meeting scheduled for the first of January. Each TWIG member is working on developing their ideas of alternatives and they will be review at the January meeting.

◆ **Type F Riparian Prescription (Design) – update**

Dave Schuett-Hames reported that the hybrid study design was approved by Policy. Next Meeting to be held in January where the TWIG will begin working on study design. Plan on starting that work by initiating a FPAs and GIS data review and analysis. This analysis should help the TWIG to select the appropriate treatments to evaluate with the project. The question was raised as to whether or not the study design will go through an ISPR review since this is a pilot project. No decision was made on this issue.

◆ **BMP Roads Effectiveness Project (BAS) – update**

Julie Dieu reported that the document is moving along, and that a couple of the TWIG members have been busy so it's going a little slow. The goal is to have it completed by December 30. She and Bob Danahy will fill in the blanks and finalize. A conference call is scheduled for January 8 2016, and will be sent to CMER in the January 12 mailing.

Public Comment Period

No public comment

CMER/SAG Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- EWRAP six questions approved to go to Policy.
- WetSAG Work Plan approved.
- Howard Haemmerle and Patti Shramek will work on the CMER Accomplishments document and distribute to the SAGS the week of December 21.
- Communication with Policy added as a topic for a future CMER meeting.
- January agenda item: how to handle distribution of reports returned from ISPR.
- RSAG Work Plan updates to be presented at January CMER meeting.
- Add step process behind each TWIG in agenda.
- All other SAG Work Plan updates will be presented in January.

- Forest Hydrology Study Findings Report will be ready for review in January.
- Comments for Chapter 6 of the Type N Hard Rock Study are due to Charlene Andrade on January 6, 2016.

Adjorned