

CMER SAG UPDATES

June 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, is currently 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.
- WetSAG is seeking a Field Technician for field 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

UPSAG

Chairs: Ted Turner & Mike Maudlin

AMP Project Manager: Theryn Henkel

Deep-Seated Landslide Research Strategy

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

AMP Project Manager: Theryn Henkel

- The DSL Study Design was reviewed by CMER April 18-May 18, 2023. The Project Team and consultant are working through the comments and suggested edits. The Study Design is expected to be ready for CMER review and consideration for approval and ISPR in July or August.
- Theryn Henkel joined the Project Team as the Project Manager and Elist Freeman as the CMER Scientist and Principal Investigator.
- Theryn is working with Project Team to update Charter and Project Management Plan.

Unstable Slope Criteria Project

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

AMP Project Manager: Theryn Henkel

- 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. ISPR returned the report to the author and Project Team on May 31, 2023. Author response is due June 30, 2023. Criteria Project Team will begin working on Prospective 6 Questions document following CMER final approval.
- Theryn Henkel joined the Project Team as the Project Manager and Elist Freeman as the CMER Scientist and Principal Investigator.
- Theryn is working with Project Team to update Charter and Project Management Plan.

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 was approved by CMER at the June CMER meeting.
- CMER approved sending the ETHEP Study Design to ISPR, with the request that the panel selected for ISPR include expertise in the following areas:
 - Dry side riparian forest
 - Fire science
 - Forest ecology and modeling
 - Silviculturist
 - Statistical Design
- The ETHEP Project Team is planning to do a landscape assessment this summer to help prepare the field manual and protocols

Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP)

- Field season is underway.
- 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

- SAGE will soon begin working on further developing the Eastside Forest Health Strategy based on

the Policy-approved 23-25 CMER Work Plan.

RSAG

Chair: Joe Murray

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

*Field trip planned for July 11-12, 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 June CMER meeting. The project team will meet with the CMER reviewers to finalize the document and will bring it back to CMER at the July CMER meeting.

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, multiple subsequent due dates have not been met and the report continues to be significantly delayed, with a revised submission target date of late June.

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

- The “ExMo” Project Team approved a draft charter that was sent to RSAG for review. RSAG comments are being solicited through July 3rd after which a version with combined comments will be discussed at RSAG in July and subsequently transmitted back to the Project Team for review.
- Watershed DGC continues to make progress on their contracted data assessment work. A final report is expected by the end of the month.
- RSAG has directed the project team to develop a SOW for a PI (possibly multiple PIs) to be used forin upcoming PI solicitation.

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 in May 2023 and approved by CMER at the May 23, 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 Summer 2023, with anticipated delivery to CMER in late Summer/early Fall 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

- The Roads project team successfully launched the Cost vs. Maintenance Survey and has begun to receive responses.
- The project team is busy preparing to complete the first phase of our annual site maintenance with the help of PC Region Crew.
- Numerous contracts for FY 24-25 are in development and will be executed by the end of this

current FY.

- As requested after an early data use notification was sent to CMER a few months ago, the paper examining ditch-line hydraulics by Amanda Manaster Alvis et. al. has been submitted. Please see the submitted manuscript on the below SPO link.

□ [DLH_ESPL_20230602.docx](#)

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	Henkel	Eese Freeman (CMER)	UPSAG	Feb- 2023	Sept - 23
Westside Type F Exploratory Report	Final ISPR-Approved Report	Prescott	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	March-23	Sept- 2023
Westside Type F Exploratory Report	CMER Six Questions Document	Prescott	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	Jun-23	TBD
PHB	Project Charter	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Jul-22	Jul-23
DPC	Project Charter	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Jul-22	Jul-23
DPC	Study Design	Toledo	TBD	ISAG	Feb-23	Aug-23
Discontinuous Np Surface Flows	Scoping	Schofield	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Sept -22	Late Summer/early Fall-23
RCS	Prospective 6 Questions	Toledo	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	RSAG	Mar-23	Jun-23
ETHEP	Study Design	Toledo	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	SAGE	May-23	Jun-23
Extensive Monitoring	Project Charter	Prescott	TBD	RSAG	Oct-22	July-23
WMZ	Scoping	Schofield	Tanner Williamson (CMER)	WetSAG		August-23
Riparian Function Literature Synthesis	Literature Synthesis	Toledo	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	RSAG		Oct-23
Deep-Seated Landslide Research Strategy	Revised Study Design	Henkel	Elese Freeman (CMER)	UPSAG	July- 23	
* Policy Initiated Items- Not following CMER' Protocols and Standards Manual						