

Timber, Fish, & Wildlife Policy Committee
January 9, 2014 Meeting Summary

Decisions and Actions from Meeting

Decision	Notes
Add a legislative update to the February and March meeting agendas.	All caucuses are welcome to participate in the legislative update
Agreed to the following schedule for reviewing budget, workplan, and Master Project Schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 6 – review CMER workplan • March 7 – regular March meeting topics **additional day** • April 3 – review annual budget, Master Project Schedule, and regular April meeting topics 	By all caucuses present
Accepted the December 5, 2013 draft meeting summary with edits.	By all caucuses present
Initial acceptance of Mass Wasting outline contingent upon approval at the February Policy meeting	By all caucus present

Action	Assignment
Revise Policy's Prioritization flowchart	Facilitators & Co-Chairs
Revise 2013 Accomplishments and send to full Committee, attach to Co-Chairs' quarterly memo to the Board.	Facilitators & Co-Chairs
Send big issue comments to Adrian on the Mass Wasting outline by January 16; revise outline for February Policy meeting.	All caucuses; Adrian Miller
Draft January 9, 2014 meeting summary	Claire Turpel

Welcome, Introductions, & Announcements – Stephen Bernath and Adrian Miller, Co-Chairs of the Timber, Fish, & Wildlife Policy Committee (Policy), welcomed everyone and led introductions (*see Attachment 1 for a list of attendees*). While this meeting is at the Ramada Inn due to scheduling conflicts, the remaining 2014 meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month at the Department of Ecology headquarters in Lacey.

During the agenda review, Policy decided to add a legislative update at the next two meetings. Since the short legislative session starts on Monday, January 13 and goes for 60 days, the February and March meetings will have time for Policy members to discuss current topics and activities at the legislature.

Since the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) Policy representative has left his position, Marc Gauthier will temporarily represent UCUT at both technical and policy levels. The tribes may decide to move forward differently in the future.

DNR's Compliance Monitoring Memo – The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is looking to improve the compliance monitoring program by increasing statistical confidence and focusing efforts. Over the last 2 years, DNR sampled 350 FPAs. Though it took a lot of effort to analyze each application,

DNR plans to improve the effort and focus on prescriptions (by focusing on the sampling design so they collect more data on specific prescriptions). They will continue to evaluate the method of sampling and hope to have more specifics and show more deviations in the statistics. They are planning to present some information from this effort to the Compliance Monitoring Stakeholder Committee in February.

December 5, 2013 Meeting Summary – Policy members suggested edits to several sections of the draft meeting summary. With those edits, Policy accepted the meeting summary as final.

2014 Spring Timeline – In past years Policy has either reviewed the CMER workplan and budget in one day or in two days. Last year, Policy reviewed them in the same meeting and decided that reviewing them in the future at separate meetings will help the process. Policy agreed to meet:

- **March 6 and 7**: 1 day to review the CMER workplan; 1 day to keep current with regular meeting topics.
- **April 3**: half day to review the annual budget and Master Project Schedule; half day to keep current with regular meeting topics.

The 2014 schedule is unique compared to all future years because the AMP will only create an annual budget. In future years, the AMP will create biennial budgets to flow better with the biennial legislative process.

Policy's Prioritization Flowchart – The facilitators and Co-Chairs explained that this flowchart is meant to be a tool, not a silver bullet, for Policy to manage workload when a new topic needs to be addressed. Overall, Policy members agreed that the general direction of the flowchart is helpful and provided specific edits to the flowchart. The facilitators will revise and bring to the February meeting.

2013 Retrospective – The Co-Chairs wanted to celebrate Policy's past year accomplishments before diving into the 2014 work. Policy members suggested additional edits to the list of accomplishments and a revised version will be sent to the full Committee. A version of this will also be included in the Co-Chairs' quarterly memo to the Board at the February meeting.

Mass Wasting – Adrian Miller reviewed sections of the draft that outlines next steps DNR and other Policy members will take to improve protection for mass wasting events. Section-by-section, Policy approved language as edits were suggested. The newest version of the document will be emailed at the end of meeting, and Policy is encouraged to send issues they or their caucus has with the document to Adrian within the week. Policy will review the revision version at the next meeting, work to accept that version, and present it to the Board at the February meeting.

Light Detection And Ranging (LiDAR) Overview – Terry Curtis and Caleb Maki from DNR presented about the capabilities of LiDAR (see PowerPoint). The presentation included the following points:

- LiDAR is a series of elevation points from a laser, not imagery. LiDAR data sets can be more or less accurate, depending upon whether they reflect the bare earth layer or get caught in the canopy.

- LiDAR should not replace aerial photography, but can be used in conjunction to make more accurate decisions. For instance, LiDAR can help identify the topography and an aerial photograph can help identify/verify roads, bridges, buildings, etc.
- Many entities collect LiDAR data, including the Puget Sound LiDAR Consortium.
 - The best window for gathering data (flying the laser) is November through March, so be aware that data needs in summer will need to wait until late fall at the earliest.
 - The vendors often “smooth out the data,” including hydro-enforcing and hydro-flattening. These can help in the final look of the LiDAR data set, but is something to be aware of when needing accurate data.
- If Policy is interested in the hydrologic analysis, they could invite others to speak (such as Chris Snyder and Jeff Ricklefs).

After the presentation, Policy members followed up with individual questions. The discussion and answers included:

- GPS points can be added to the LiDAR data, which would be another GIS layer in the final product.
- LiDAR can be a huge benefit to determining stability (for unstable slopes) as well as stream typing.
- The cost of LiDAR is usually high, and includes the cost to collect the data and the cost to interpret/analyze the data. If Policy wants to use LiDAR in a certain way, they could propose to DNR to conduct a pilot using LiDAR.
- When collecting and analyzing the data, Terry encouraged that Policy keep as much of the details and specs as possible.
- LiDAR measures within 10 cm of each pulse, which could be helpful when analyzing gradients for stream typing. In that case, the data would not need hydro-flattening or “smoothing”.

Type N Update – Stephen Bernath sent a Doodle poll with dates for the next Type N policy subgroup meeting to review the technical subgroup’s data summary. Once everyone has filled in the Doodle poll, he will send the date which will hopefully be before the February Policy meeting. (After the Policy meeting, the Type N policy subgroup meeting has been set for January 30.)

Type F – Jim Hotvedt reviewed the recommendations he received from each caucus, which he’ll use for his packet to the Board in February. He received four recommendations from eight caucuses; five caucuses submitted one joint recommendations memo together and the other three submitted individual caucus comments. The federal caucus hopes to submit something directly to the Board in time for their meeting, but since they are caucusing with DNR as the permit holder, will not likely have a recommendation in time for Jim to include in his packet.

Based on the caucus recommendations, Jim will write a cover memo to the Board to include: background information, the original task to Policy, the Conservation Caucus’s invocation of Stage 1 then Stage 2 of the dispute resolution process and the work effort for those processes, and central themes.

One Policy member encouraged Jim to emphasize the areas of agreement.

CMER Update – No update for today; the CMER Co-Chairs will update Policy at the February meeting.

Final Comments

- If commenting on the hydraulic code revision, caucuses should send their comments to Jim Hotvedt by February 1 so he can batch all Policy comments together for the Fish & Wildlife Commission.
- Marc Ratcliff will prioritize updating DNR's website with meeting materials for the past Policy meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 4pm.

Attachment 1 – 1/9/14 Meeting Participants by Caucus*

Conservation Caucus

Peter Goldman, WFLC
Chris Mendoza
*Mary Scurlock

County Caucus

*Kendra Smith, Skagit County (phone)

Federal Caucus

*Marty Acker, USFWS

Landowner Caucus – Industrial (large)

Adrian Miller, Olympic Resource Management
(Co-Chair)
*Karen Terwilleger, WFPA

Landowner Caucus – Nonindustrial (small)

*Dick Miller, WFFA

*Caucus leads

State Caucus – DNR

*Marc Engel
Chris Hanlon-Meyer
Marc Ratcliff

State Caucus – WDFW & Ecology

*Stephen Bernath, Ecology (Co-Chair)
Mark Hicks, Ecology
*Terry Jackson, WDFW

Tribal Caucus – Eastside

*Marc Gauthier, UCUT

Tribal Caucus – Westside

*Jim Peters, NWIFC
Nancy Sturhan, NWIFC (phone)
Curt Veldhuisen, Skagit River System
Cooperative (phone)

Others

Terry Curtis, DNR
Aaron Everett, DNR
Jim Hotvedt, Adaptive Management Program Administrator
Caleb Maki, DNR
Claire Turpel, Triangle Associates (facilitation team)
Bob Wheeler, Triangle Associates (facilitation team)

Attachment 2 – Ongoing Priorities Checklist

Priority	Assignment	Status & Notes
Type N	Type N policy subgroup	Type N Policy Subgroup to review data analysis of eastside data.
Type F	Policy	AMPA summarizing issues for February Board meeting.
Adaptive Mgmt Program Reform Rule Changes		Accepted by Board at August meeting, CR-103 process initiated. Implemented initial changes at November 2013 meeting, will tweak changes for subsequent meetings.
Mass Wasting Report Findings Package	Policy	Charter developed and meetings complete. Finalizing outline of next steps to bring to February Board meeting.
Ongoing CMER reports reviewed by Policy	Mark Hicks & Todd Baldwin, CMER Co-Chairs	CMER Co-Chairs to give update(s) as needed at Policy meetings; AMPA to give quarterly reports for when CMER studies to come to Policy

*This table notes the Policy Committee priorities that were sent to the Forest Practices Board and any other major topics or issues that arise during the year.

Attachment 3 – Entities, Groups, or Subgroups: Schedule and Notes

Entity, Group, or Subgroup	Next Meeting Date	Notes
Forests & Fish Policy Committee	February 6, 2014	
CMER	January 28, 2014	
Type N Policy Subgroup	January 30, 2014	
Type F Subcommittee of the Whole		AMPA to present issues at the February 2014 Board meeting.
Forest Practices Board	February 11, 2014	