

CMER SAG UPDATES

July 2023

WetSAG

Co-Chairs: Debbie Kay & Harry Bell

AMP Project Manager: Jenny Schofield (WMZ/FWEP)

Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project

- On July 11, WetSAG hosted a field trip to visit some of the instrumented sites for the FWEP Chronosequence. Representatives from DNR, CMER science staff, WFPA, WDFW, Ecology and Westside Tribes attended.
- Rob Pavlik has been hired as a CMER Field Technician as of July 2023. He will be assisting with FWEP fieldwork and other CMER studies as needed
- Summer field work is ongoing.
 - Site instrumentation in the shallow groundwater wells and adjacent Np streams is in progress
 - Hemispherical photography will begin in August
- Contracting with AmTest for water quality analyses is currently being developed for FY 2024.

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 August.
- Theryn is working with Project Team to update Project Timeline, 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 September 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 was returned to ISPR on July 14, 2023. Criteria Project Team will begin working on Prospective 6 Questions document following CMER final approval. The project team is also in the very early stages of planning for implementation.
- Theryn is working with Project Team to update the Project Timeline, 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 and sent to ISPR in June. ISPR comments are expected back in early September. The authors will review and respond to comments at that time.
- The ETHEP Project Team is conducting 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)

*RSAG successfully completed a field trip to the OESF on July 12th.

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. A meeting between the RCS Project Team and interested CMER members to address unresolved CMER comments is scheduled for August 2.

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.

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 on May 23rd. RSAG has requested two extensions of the review period so comments are being solicited through August 2 after which a version with combined comments will be discussed at RSAG in the August meeting and subsequently transmitted back to the Project Team for review.
- Watershed DCG completed their Data Assessment contract and delivered a final report to RSAG.

Riparian Function Literature Synthesis

- University of Idaho delivered the Riparian Function Literature Synthesis to RSAG. RSAG has initiated review of the literature synthesis; comments are due August 11.

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 ISPR-approved PHB Study Design received final CMER approval in May. The Project Team is discussing next steps, including the Prospective 6 Questions document and initial desktop site selection.
- The DPC Project Team is working on the DPC Study Design and expects to initiate concurrent CMER/ISAG review in summer or fall 2023.
- The PHB project charter and developing a DPC project charter were approved at the July CMER meeting.
- 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 began 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 is currently implementing numerous site maintenance activities with the assist of PC Region Road Crew including replacing all traffic counters across our study areas, placing new rock on study segments, and constructing new ditch-line BMPs.

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	Elise Freeman (CMER)	UPSAG	Feb- 2023	Sept - 23
Westside Type F Exploratory Report	Final ISPR-Approved Report	Prescott	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	March-23	Sept- 23
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	Sep-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	Aug-23
ETHEP	ISPR-Approved Study Design	Toledo	Rachel Rubin (CMER)	SAGE		Oct-23
Extensive Monitoring	Project Charter	Prescott	TBD	RSAG	Oct-22	Sept-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	Elise Freeman (CMER)	UPSAG	July- 23	Aug-23
* Policy Initiated Items- Not following CMER' Protocols and Standards Manual						