

CMER
April 27, 2004
NWIFC Conference Center
Draft Minutes

Attendees

Barreca, Jeannette	Department of Ecology
Butts, Sally	USFWS
Clark, Jeffrey	Weyerhaeuser
Heide, Pete	WFPA
Hoffman, Linda	WDFW
Hunter, Mark	WDFW
Jackson, Terry	WDFW
Martin, Doug	Martin Environmental, CMER Co-Chair
McConnell, Steve	NWIFC
McDonald, Dennis	DNR
McFadden, George	NWIFC
McNaughton, Geoffrey	DNR, Adaptive Management Program Administrator
Mendoza, Chris	ARC Consultants
Mobbs, Mark	Quinault Indian Nation
Pavel, Joseph	NWIFC
Pederson, Pete	Upper Columbia United Tribes
Pleus, Allen	NWIFC
Pucci, Dawn	Suquamish Tribe
Quinn, Tim	WDFW, CMER Co-Chair
Ray, Kris	Colville Confederated Tribes
Risenhoover, Ken	Port Blakely Tree Farm
Rowton, Heather	WFPA
Schuett-Hames, Dave	NWIFC

Minutes, Decisions/Tasks Review, General Updates

Decision/Task	Minutes Section
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPSAG: A workgroup was formed to develop recommendations on whether the “Hydrologic Impacts of Roads at Varying Spatial and Temporal Scales” Literature review meets the requirements for CMER to consider publication of the document. The workgroup will also develop a process for assigning CMER reviews in the future. UPSAG agreed to delay their request until this workgroup comes back with recommendations regarding how to proceed. • UPSAG: CMER agreed that the Road Sub-Basin Scale 	SAG Requests

Decision/Task	Minutes Section
Effectiveness Monitoring Design should be sent to SRC for review. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISAG: request for authorization to award \$24,800 to WDFW to develop an extensive fish passage monitoring study design was approved as modified by CMER during the meeting. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A draft of CMER suggestions for Intensive Monitoring will be forwarded to CMER one week before the May meeting and the document will be discussed during the May CMER meeting. 	Intensive Monitoring Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed FY 2005 budget was approved as modified. 	Budget Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The workplan development schedule was modified. A final workplan will now be considered at the May CMER meeting. 	Workplan Progress Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The June Science session will be a presentation and discussion of the SAGE workplan. 	Afternoon Session

Note: Two updates made at the end of the meeting have been moved to this section for ease of organization in the minutes.

- Minutes from the March 2004 CMER meeting will be proposed for approval in May when all revisions have been considered. Decisions and tasks were reviewed.
- A proposed list of website postings will be distributed prior to the May CMER meeting and will be discussed during the May CMER meeting.
- An Adaptive Management Oversight Committee has been meeting to establish a framework for considering implications of CMER studies over time. One thing that has surfaced thus far is that CMER, as part of their study design phase, should address management implications. Management implications can be many things and CMER is not responsible for recommending rule changes. CMER discussed this issue briefly yesterday – see workplan discussion below and minutes from 4/26/04 CMER meeting for more information.
- The CMER co-chairs have expressed a concern to DNR regarding development of the compliance monitoring protocol. Lenny Young, Forest Practices Division Manager, committed to try to make the development process more open. McFadden said that the Compliance Monitoring Committee will meet again next week and consider a proposal to monitor whether riparian buffers are being applied correctly. EPA is stressing the idea of monitoring performance, rather than just compliance. There is still a great deal of concern regarding the lack of stakeholder involvement in this process. McFadden said there is much information on the FPA/N that could be useful to CMER if it was tracked and he has brought this concern to the Compliance Monitoring Committee.

- McFadden is still seeking Plot locations for the landowner database.
 - Martin said Timothy Quinn will be resigning as co-chair sometime in the near future. Policy has been informed of this decision and has proposed a process for approving a new co-chair for CMER. The caucuses with core members are being asked to nominate a co-chair. These nominees will then be considered by FFR Policy and Policy will make a determination regarding who the co-chair will be. The reasoning behind this is that the caucuses need to approve time for this person to serve (a minimum of 50% of an FTE is needed to serve as co-chair). This process will be announced and discussed at the May FFR Policy CMER meeting.
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SAG Requests:

UPSAG: Road Sub-Basin Scale Effectiveness Monitoring. This is a request for approval of the literature review entitled “The Hydrologic Impacts of Roads at Varying Spatial and Temporal Scales: A Review of Published Literature as of 04/09/04.” UPSAG is recommending no SRC review of this document. In Schedule L-1, there is a question about the hydrologic effect of roads. The literature review looked at the existing science and brought out the relevant questions being considered currently in scientific research communities.

Concerns were raised regarding the lack of sufficient CMER review of the document and regarding whether the document should become a CMER publication as it was done without contract and was not approved or designed by CMER. CMER has discussed previously, the need for assigned CMER review of publications.

CMER did not reach consensus on approving this document at this time. There are two primary questions raised by this request.

1. What merits CMER publication?
2. How are reviews assigned?

CMER Consensus: form a workgroup to identify whether this document meets the criteria for a CMER document and how future reviews will be assigned.

Pleus, Rowton, Jackson, Barreca, Hunter, McConnell will serve on the work group.

UPSAG agreed to bring this request before CMER following the consideration of recommendations made by the small group.

UPSAG2: Road Sub-Basin Scale Effectiveness Monitoring. This is a request for approval to submit the Road Sub-Basin Scale Effectiveness Monitoring Design and WARSEM model and manual for SRC Review. CMER comments have been compiled. CMER review has been ongoing. This review would be conducted as an open review. Questions

were raised regarding whether the model should receive peer review or not. UPSAG has recommended qualified reviewers to the University of Washington.

CMER Consensus: CMER agreed that the road sub-basin scale effectiveness monitoring design should be sent to peer review and that the WARSEM model will be included as supportive material in the package but that UPSAG will not request peer review of the model. This is a change from the original proposal to send the WARSEM model for SRC review.

ISAG: Request for Authorization to award \$24,800 to WDFW to develop an extensive fish passage monitoring study design. ISAG is recommending that WDFW recommend how to do extensive fish passage monitoring. The purpose of this project is to identify trends toward improvement. There will be an SRC review on the study design when it is completed. This money is in the existing CMER budget and is not a new allocation. Heide raised concerns about including Project two - trend monitoring – in the current scope of work. McDonald agreed to remove that portion of the request.

There was discussion regarding whether this request sets a precedent of review for all contractors; CMER believes this is a “special” case and that generally, CMER will not approve contractors for studies.

CMER Consensus: CMER agreed that Project two will be removed from this SAG request. The proposal was approved with this modification.

SRC Update: The Watertyping Validation Study design review has been received from SRC review. The review was interactive and much was learned. The study design did receive some criticism and it will be addressed by ISAG and forwarded to CMER for consideration at a later date.

Intensive Monitoring Update: Yesterday afternoon, there was a brief update on intensive monitoring. Schuett-Hames said that small group has been working; draft questions have been developed and refined. There is agreement that the small group will meet again to review comments and identify options. This document will be brought to CMER in the afternoon session during the May meeting. CMER will then have a chance to comment on the proposal. The document will then be forwarded to the Intensive Monitoring Group and a meeting will be held between the two groups to discuss CMER’s suggestions. CMER can then take the information and make an informed decision about how to move forward.

Schuett-Hames will distribute the current draft of comments and suggestions one week before the May CMER meeting. CMER will discuss the draft during the meeting.

Budget Update: McNaughton distributed a budget sheet that captured discussion from 04/26/04. There were minor changes and corrections noted during the meeting, which McNaughton will incorporate. Contact McNaughton for a copy of the updated budget.

CMER Consensus: The budget was approved as modified at CMER on 4/26/04 and 4/27/04.

Workplan Progress Update: The workplan is still in the revision process and the deadline was not met. The workplan schedule has been revised as follows:

- Workplan revisions are due to Dave Schuett-Hames on May 11, 2004
- Schuett-Hames will revise the document and will distribute it to CMER on May 18th.
- The workplan will be considered for approval at the May CMER meeting.

No CMER representatives present objected to this change in schedule.

SAG Issues

ISAG: McDonald said that ISAG is planning to begin validation of the model next year when there is a viable field season and the group is more prepared. See memorandum distributed to CMER via e-mail.

BTSAG: An announcement for an upcoming BTSAG meeting was sent to CMER earlier this month. The meeting will focus on the eastside riparian effectiveness stream temperature studies BTSAG is addressing. If you have comments or are interested in this, please plan to attend. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday 29th, USFWS, 10am – 3pm.

PSMWG: An RFQQ was sent out and a contractor has been selected to complete work on the CMER Protocols and Standards Manual. Anyone interested in getting involved in this project, should contact Allen Pleus at 360-438-1180.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session focused on how to integrate the CMER program. The purpose is not to get rid of any studies but to integrate our program better. Four key issues were expressed during the afternoon session. Some of these issues are focused more toward integration and some are issues that CMER is currently not studying but may consider for study in the future.

- Wind throw on type N streams
- Hydrology and stream flow
- Groundwater geology driven areas on the eastside
- Type F buffer effectiveness (large and small streams) and small landowners

SAGE will present their workplan in the afternoon session of the June CMER meeting.