

Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee (CMER)

**July 26, 2011
DNR/DOC Compound**

Attendees	Representing
*Baldwin, Todd (ph)	Kalispel Tribe
chesney, charles (ph)	DNR
Dieu, Julie	Rayonier
Gauthier, Marc (ph)	Upper Columbia United Tribes
Heide, Pete	WFPA, Director of Forest Env Program
*Hicks, Mark	Department of Ecology, SRSAG Co-chair
Hitchens, Dawn	Dept. of Natural Resources, CMER Coordinator
Hooks, Doug	WFPA
Hotvedt, Jim	Dept. of Natural Resources, AMPA
*Jackson, Terry	Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife,
*Lingley, Leslie	Dept. of Natural Resources
*Martin, Doug	Washington Forestry Protection Association
*Mendoza, Chris(ph)	Conservation Caucus Contractor, CMER Co-Chair
Miskovic, Teresa	Dept. of Natural Resources, Project Manager
*Miller, Dick	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Mobbs, Mark	Quinault Tribe
Roorbach, Ash	CMER Staff, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Stewart, Greg	CMER, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Schuett-Hames, Dave	CMER Staff, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
*Sturhan, Nancy	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

* Indicates official CMER members and alternates; ph indicates attended via phone & v indicates attended by video conferencing.

Agenda: There were no changes made to the agenda.

Business Session:

➤ CMER Science Topics – *Update*

The science presentations for August & October are confirmed. CMER members need to work on identifying the presenter and topic for September. Mark Hicks recommended that CMER use some of this year's science sessions to focus on CMER projects. For example the Bull Trout Temperature study is coming to a close which could be a science presentation.

Jim Hotvedt reported that the post-mortem study is currently under review and that the ISPR comments may be ready in August. The post-mortem workshop discussed in previous CMER meetings may take place next spring. It was suggested that perhaps this could be the science conference next spring.

➤ CMER Coordinator's Corner – *CMER approved July-September 2009 meeting notes*

The July-September 2009 meeting notes were accepted by CMER members. These will be finalized and loaded on the CMER website. This closes the chapter on finalizing CMER minutes from past meetings held in 2009 and 2010 and brings CMER up to date for 2011.

CMER/SAG Items:

➤ WETSAG –*CMER approved the Survey of FPA Wetlands and Forest Practices Interactions*
WETSAG sought final approval of the Forest Practice Application Office Survey which was discussed at the May 2011 CMER. CMER approved the project development report subject to title and typo changes. WETSAG agreed to change the word developmental to project development on the inside cover and to change the title to *Survey of Forest Practices Applications – Wetlands and Forest Practices Interactions*.

➤ LWAG – *RMZ Re-sample bird data - Update on Policy Decision*

Mark Hicks provided an update on the decision made at the last Policy meeting. Policy approved the re-analysis of the bird data for the westside at the reduced budget of \$18,000. Teresa Miskovic is working with WDFW to draft the agreement to finish the re-analysis.

➤ RSAG –

Solar Shade & Temperature Studies – Update

Terry Jackson provided a status update on the Bull Trout Solar & Temperature studies. The ISPR response matrix has been completed by MB&G and needs to go back to RSAG before bringing it to CMER. A contract extension is being worked on so MB&G can complete this phase of the Solar Study. Terrapin is working on the final Temperature Study report; this study is largely in a holding pattern during the summer field season. The final temperature report may not be available until next year.

Extensive Type F Study - Update

Teresa Miskovic provided a status update on the Extensive Type F project. There are three reports in different stages (2 westside and 1 eastside). The eastside report has received SAG approval and is under Ecology's review right now about who will finalize in a manner that addresses ISPR comments. Workload and staff losses slowed progress, but the expectation is to complete this by the end of August. The two westside reports are waiting to be submitted to ISPR together after completing the eastside report.

➤ SAGE

SAGE Co-chair - Update

Charles Chesney reported that SAGE needs another co-chair. Todd Baldwin has stepped down after 5 years of being the co-chair. Please send nominations. Mark Hicks requested caucuses to look within their membership to assist SAGE in this leadership need.

EWRAP – Update

Ash Roorbach reported that he and Dave Schuett-Hames are working with SAGE to help with the analysis of the EWRAP study. They submitted a proposal to SAGE which was accepted. This project was initially designed to rely heavily on the Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) to address several of the critical questions SAGE developed for this project. However, after Ash & Dave reviewed the critical questions, they proposed that SAGE did not need to use the model to address them. The critical questions look at current conditions; they plan to use FVS, but not as extensively as initially planned for this project.

Forest Hydro Study – Update

Charles Chesney reported that the 2011 field work continues; they are searching for sites from Metaline to Kettle Falls. Todd Baldwin and Greg Stewart worked on the evaluation of 500 sites. Greg has developed a database that documents the county-by-county assessment, validation and rejection of sites.

Science Session

Kelly Burnett from the USDA Forest Service in Corvallis, Oregon presented on Systematic Literature Reviews. They used an evidenced- based model from the field of medicine for developing a systematic literature review in natural resources.

➤ *UPSAG – Update on June field trip*

Julie Dieu reported that UPSAG members went out on a field trip near Tulalip to look at landslides. This is a preliminary step to scoping the criteria and interpretation of the landslide characterizations. They may take another field trip in September; potentially in the Stillman Creek and Chehalis areas.

➤ *WETSAG – Update on the RFP Forest Practices and Wetlands Systematic Literature Review*

Teresa Miskovic reported they have selected a consultant for the wetlands systematic literature review. She is currently working on finalizing the contract and scope of work with Paul Adamus. He is a former faculty member at Oregon State University. He has extensive experience in wetland functions and is well published in wetlands research. This project will be up and running in September.

➤ *Protocols and Standards Manual (PSM) – Discussion on Chapters 1-3*

Ash reported that he received a number of revisions and comments. He has yet to organize the comments. Nancy, Jim and Ash will meet on August 15th to review and organize these comments. This is open to all CMER members.

Mark Hicks identified that the bucket list of themes that emerged from the AMP training that Nancy Sturhan facilitated for Policy & CMER will be used for developing work lists. These issues have been folded into the CMER task list and Policy task list. At the next CMER meeting an updated task list will be shared with CMER. Some of the areas to highlight from the bucket list are the tasks connected to the updating of the PSM.

Mark Hicks suggested organizing a meeting with Chris Mendoza, Terry Jackson and Jim Hotvedt before next CMER meeting to refine the bucket list and focus on connections to CMER's work.

Terry Jackson added that a lot of the themes in the bucket list are from the Stillwater Report recommendations; there is an overlap and expectation to work with Policy on some of these themes.

Chris Mendoza is the lead for the Stillwater Report recommendations. A work group of CMER members need to meet to address the Stillwater recommendations. The members of the work group are Chris Mendoza, Terry Jackson, Leslie Lingley, Dick Miller and Mark Hicks. Chris Mendoza will reconvene the small group to complete a draft response and outline for CMER to review.

➤ *SAG Meeting schedule – Review by CMER*

Mark Hicks requested CMER to review the meeting schedules of the SAGs and develop meeting schedules to avoid conflicts with regularly scheduled FPB meetings, and other regularly scheduled monthly SAG meetings, as several of the CMER representatives attend FP Board quarterly meetings and the CMER co-chairs attend most of the SAG meetings. He and fellow co-chair Chris Mendoza requested SAGs to develop long-term meeting schedules to avoid conflicts.

➤ *CMER Report to Policy – Discussion on Items to take to Policy August 4th*

- Wetland Survey Report
 - CMER Protocol & Standards Manual –update
 - Wetlands Project Charter
- CMER/SAG Recap of Assignments from July 26, 2011 CMER Meeting:
- Mark Hicks will organize a meeting with Chris Mendoza, Terry Jackson & Jim Hotvedt before the next CMER meeting to refine the bucket list for CMER’s purposes.
 - Chris Mendoza will reconvene the CMER subgroup to address Stillwater’s recommendations and to continue work on the connections with CMER’s Work Plan.
 - August 15th – Protocol & Standards Manual (PSM) meeting for continued strategizing & revising.

Meeting Adjourned.