

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee  
(CMER)  
February 28, 2017  
DNR/DOC Compound/Tumwater, WA**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representing</b>
§Baldwin, Todd (ph)	Kalispel Tribe – CMER Co-Chair
§Bell, Harry	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Berge, Hans	Adaptive Management Program Administrator
chesney, charles (ph)	Member of the public
Devine, Warren	Department of Natural Resources
§Dieu, Julie	Rayonier
§Ehinger, Bill	Department of Ecology
Gauthier, Marc (ph)	Upper Columbia United Tribes
Gibbs, Heather	Department of Natural Resources
Haemmerle, Howard	Department of Natural Resources
§Hayes, Marc	Department of Fish and Wildlife
§Hicks, Mark	Department of Ecology
Hooks, Doug	WFPA – CMER Co-Chair
§Kay, Debbie	Suquamish Tribe
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protections Association
Martens, Kyle	Department of Natural Resources
McFarlan, Lauren (ph)	Quinault Indian Nation
McIntyre, Aimee	Department of Fish & Wildlife
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus
Murray, Joe	Merrill Ring
Regmi, Netra (ph)	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commissions – CMER Staff
Schuett-Hames, Dave	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator
Stewart, Greg	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Walter, Jason	Weyerhaeuser

§Indicates official CMER members and alternates; ph indicates attended via phone.

\*Indicates Decision

**Science Session:**

**Olympic Experimental State Forest (OESF) Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Status Report**  
Tedora (Teddy) Minkova, Research and Monitoring Advisor for the Olympic Experimental State Forest, gave a presentation on the Status of Stream Habitat on the OESF 20 years after adopting the State Lands HCP. Streams in the OESF are monitored as a commitment under the state lands HCP. Effectiveness and Validation monitoring are part of the program. Data are collected to test assumptions, refine models, and validate projections. The goal of the project is to evaluate

status and changes in riparian and in-stream habitat conditions. Teddy described the conditions of the forest, the study design, and the habitat indicators (reach level) and watershed level disturbances that were sampled. After an overview of the initial results, she identified the next steps for the project which included seeking collaboration with potential research partners. Teddy's PowerPoint presentation will be sent out to the CMER listserv. More information on the OESF can be found at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/forest-resources/olympic-experimental-state-forest>.

## **Decisions:**

### **CMER**

- ◆ **\*2017 CMER Work Plan** – *approval of ISAG changes and entire Work Plan*

Heather Gibbs reviewed changes that were made to the Work Plan since the January meeting.

Debbie Kay moved to approve the Work Plan, Marc Hayes seconded – **Approved**

- ◆ **\*CMER 17-19 Biennium Budget** – *approval*

Hayes, Tim Quinn, and Aimee McIntyre reviewed the LWAG changes to the Master Project Schedule that was sent out in the CMER mailing for the Hard Rock project. Bill Ehinger reviewed the RSAG changes to the RSAG portion of the Hard Rock project.

Hans Berge reviewed the rest of the Master Project Schedule.

Chris Mendoza motioned to approve the CMER budget to send to Policy, Mark Hicks seconded. Doug Martin abstained - **Approved**

There was discussion around the need for an Eastside CMER Scientist. Due to concerns by Doug Martin, Todd Baldwin suggested removing the position and adding funds to the ENREP budget to hire a person to replace Jennifer Garlesky for the site selection effort. Once that need is completed, CMER could re-evaluate the need for an Eastside CMER staff member.

- ◆ **\*Meeting Minutes Approval** – *December 2016 and January 2017 meeting minutes*

Doug Hooks commented that he did not see the January 2017 meeting minutes in the meeting materials and Chris Mendoza replied that he didn't either. The minutes did not make it into the mailing and will be distributed for approval at the March meeting.

charles chesney remarked that his comment of “public comment” was not in the minutes because he didn’t have much time to provide a comment. He requested that more time be allowed at the end of the meeting for public comment.

Mendoza moved to approve the December 2016 meeting minutes, Kay seconded - **Approved**

### **TWIG**

◆ **\*Roads TWIG Study Design – approval**

Howard Haemmerle reviewed the comment matrix and asked if anyone had any comments or questions. Mendoza and Hayes complemented the TWIG on the job they did on addressing the matrix comments.

Hayes moved to send the study design to ISPR. Hicks seconded – **Approved**

◆ **\*Unstable Slopes TWIG Best Available Science – approval**

Haemmerle requested approval to send the Best Available Science (BAS) document to Policy. It will go to Policy for a presentation at their March 2 meeting if it is approved.

Hicks moved to approve the BAS document and move it to Policy, Hayes seconded - **Approved**

◆ **\*Type F TWIG Study Design – approval**

Dave Schuett-Hames reviewed the changes to the document in response to Hicks’ comments. Haemmerle requested approval to send the study design to ISPR.

Hicks moved to send the study design to ISPR, Hayes seconded - **Approved**

### **Updates:**

#### **Report from the Board – February 8 meeting**

Minutes for the meeting can be found on the Department of Natural Resources web page at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/forest-practices-board>.

Hans Berge reported that the Board discussed how to activate some things that have been on hold regarding Unstable Slopes.

Berge also reported that the Board has directed him to submit recommendations on how to improve the Adaptive Management process at the May Board meeting. He and the CMER Co-Chairs will be bringing recommendations on how to improve the CMER process to the March CMER meeting.

Hooks reported that Stephen Bernath, Board Chair, has directed a performance audit for the Adaptive Management Program. He also reported that Howard Haemmerle will be giving presentation to Board on Lean at their May meeting. Dave Schuett-Hames requested that CMER have a chance to weigh in on the Lean process and how it has worked.

### **Report from Policy – February 1 meeting**

Hans Berge gave a report on the February 1, 2017 Policy meeting. Minutes for the meeting can be found on the Department of Natural Resources web page at

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/forest-practices-board/tfw-policy-committee>.

### **CMER**

- ◆ **Lean Process – update**  
Postponed
- ◆ **Protocol and Standards Manual Chapter 7**  
Postponed

### **SAG and TWIG Updates – answer questions on written updates**

Postponed

### **Public Comment Period**

Charles Chesney commented “public comment” and noted that at 4:05 pm there wasn’t much time left to comment.

### **Recap of Assignments/Decisions**

- ◆ Patti Shramek will send out the OESF PowerPoint presentation to the CMER listserv.
- ◆ 2017-2019 Biennium CMER Work Plan approved.
- ◆ December 2016 CMER meeting minutes approved.
- ◆ Roads TWIG study design approved to send to ISPR.
- ◆ Unstable Slopes TWIG best available science document approved to send to Policy.
- ◆ Type F TWIG study design approved to send to ISPR.
- ◆ 2017-2019 Master Project Schedule/Budget approved.
- ◆ Bill Ehinger will give a presentation on the temperature portion of the Hard Rock study at the March meeting.
- ◆ **Future meeting topic:** how to indicate future year budgets for projects in future Master Project Schedules.
- ◆ **Future meeting topic:** Improving the value/structure of the workplan.
- ◆ **Future meeting topic:** Archiving of old or terminated projects from the Work Plan.
- ◆ **Future meeting topic:** how to bring new projects forward.

**Adjourned**