

Timber, Fish and Wildlife Policy Committee

Thursday, June 2, 2022 // 9:00AM – 4:55PM

Hybrid Meeting

Motions	
Motion	Move/Second (Vote)
<p>May 2022 Meeting Minutes</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Ken Miller moved to approve the May 2022 notes, as amended</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p>Seconded: Court Stanley</p> <p>Up: Darin Cramer, Cody Thomas, Marc Engel, Ken Miller, Court Stanley, Brandon Austin, Tom O’Brien, and Jim Peters.</p> <p>Absent: Alec Brown</p>
<p>RCS Add-on</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Ken Miller moved to recommend that we support the RCS Add-on and provide clarification to CMER.</p> <p>The motion failed</p>	<p>Seconded: Darin Cramer</p> <p>Up: Ken Miller and Court Stanley</p> <p>Sideways: Marc Engel, Brandon Austin, Darin Cramer, Tom O’Brien</p> <p>Down: Alec Brown and Cody Thomas</p> <p>Absent: Jim Peters</p>

Action Items	
Action Items	Responsibility
Interest based negotiation training and SDM	July agenda
Send out work plan, FWEP PowerPoint presentation, and Majority/Minority template.	Natalie
Eastside Strategy	July agenda
FWEP f/u discussion Clarity on what we are doing and how it fits into the overall project	July agenda

NOTES

Caucus updates:

Ken Miller mentioned that Steve Barnowe-Meyer has officially retired from Policy and that Heather Hanson is also retiring.

Jim Peters explained that due to medical issues he will be stepping back and planning on having someone to step in to help. He has asked Ash Roorbach to be his proxy for this meeting.

Staff updates:

Saboor Jawad (AMPA) reminded that the new Eastern Washington Scientist, Rachel Rubin, will be starting on June 13th.

SAO Report Recommendation - #5 Net Gains

Saboor Jawad reviewed the draft of the Options Paper: SAO Recommendations #5: Adopt a Net Gains Model for Project Planning document and what the SAO Recommendations workgroup had discussed in their past meetings. There were multiple comments/responses at the April TFW Policy meeting, as a result we are unable to present this to the Forest Practices Board in May. There will likely be more changes in the SAO Recommendation document. The first proposed net gains option discussed was the structured decision making. Meghan Tuttle discussed that she reached out to Betsy Daniels from Triangle Associates about interest based negotiation training and structured decision making. Saboor Jawad asked who was interested and Marc Engel explained that we should have everyone participate in this training. The second proposed net gains options discussed was the clarification process for outside science. Darin Cramer mentioned that we shouldn't have to wait to receive the documents from CMER to get started on the process, others agreed with this. He expressed that we cannot avoid using the outside science.

The third proposed net gains option discussed was setting clear AMP Priorities. Saboor Jawad explained that the development and approval timelines of CMER Workplan and the MPS are not aligned. It is a technical fix to get the CMER Workplan set up and then start working on the MPS and implement in this biennium. Meghan Tuttle asked about how Policy is going to set and follow through with priorities. Marc Engel responded that if Policy sees that it is a priority enough to be taken to the Forest Practices Board and the Board agrees at that point it would be considered a priority.

The fourth net gains option discussed was the length of dispute resolution timelines. It was discussed that the title of the section is causing an issue within itself. Darin Cramer explained that he felt that there would be no way of completing stage one and two within a five month timeline as there are many outside factors. Marc Engel explained that there should not be any problem with developing guidance and present it to the Forest Practices Board. Court Stanley mentioned that a possible solution could be changing the timeline from months to hours. As scheduling is a difficult part of completing the dispute resolution process. Alec Brown mentioned that if we extend the timeline for dispute resolution we will fill that time and then will look to extend the timeline again. This is not a time issue it is more focused on how decisions are made. He suggested to look back at the last ten or so dispute resolution and do an evaluation of each to see what did and did not work for each process. Cody supports Alec's comments and suggested having clear instruction would help improve the dispute resolution process. Saboor Jawad will look into changing this section.

There were no comments or issues on the fifth net gains option, initiate reform dialogue with CMER. The sixth net gains option discussed was to develop guidance or manual for TFW Policy. Marc Engel stated that Policy could work on the Board Manual with each of these and that will build the guidance. Alec Brown suggested to rephrase it to expectation of the Policy member. Brandon Austin liked Alec's suggestion and gave an idea of an annual review for each Policy member. Reach out to Saboor Jawad with any feedback about any of the section so he can prepare for the Forest Practices Board November meeting.

TFW Policy Work Plan

Saboor Jawad (AMPA) reviewed the new TFW Policy Workplan. The Workplan is broken into four parts, CMER Reports or Products, Master Project Schedule, Disputes, and Other Tasks. This Excel spreadsheet will be updated at the end of every monthly TFW Policy Meeting. It was agreed that the spreadsheet was filled out properly.

RCS Add-ons

CMER would like feedback on the RCS Add-ons. Ken Miller stated that RCS Add-ons do have a value. Darin Cramer said that he agrees with Ken Miller except that there is a need to fix the underlining issues before making any commitments. Saboor Jawad explained the implementation of the original study. Cody Thomas explained that they are looking at if this a priority or not, not trying to reverse the prior study, and would like to look at timing and priority. Court Stanley explained that his caucus supports RCS Add-ons to give a greater understanding and the outlying analogues would work but does not see it working from a road as an analogue. Darin Cramer asked Cody Thomas if his caucus would vote against the RCS Add-ons and Cody explained that they are considering not supporting the add-on piece but would respect prior approvals. Darin requested that they be very clear on what they are asking as he does not like the idea of throwing out the study but would like to incorporate what they need. It was discussed if there were any studies that we have not started that should take priority (in the MPS). Saboor Jawad explained that CMER needs help getting clarity around if the RCS Add-ons are a priority for Policy. Policy can request that CMER resend the Add-ons in a different way/packaging. This would need to be decided in the next two months at the very most to not further delay implementation. Ken Miller moved to recommend that we support the RCS Add-on and send clarification to CMER. The motion failed. The RCS Add-ons are not a priority for Policy at this time.

Extensive Monitoring

Decided that there needs to be a joint workgroup meeting scheduled. All should attend joint workgroup meeting. Darin Cramer suggested that in preparation for the joint workgroup meeting previous documentation for this project should be read so all are prepared for the discussion.

Master Project Schedule and Budget for Review

Saboor presented and explained the draft MPS Excel spreadsheet that was shared for Policy to review ahead of a decision in July. The Budget needs to be presented to Forest Practices Board no later than August. The significant changes were, administration needs to be restored back to the original value, change in contingency funds, costs of implementing SAO recommendations, technical editor for CMER, and Science Review. Saboor mentioned that he will be discussing details of the PHB budget with the PHB Project Team. He needs clarity on in which fiscal year certain funds will be needed. There were not any new projects added to the MPS. Dispute Resolution funding was added to adequately increase support for current biennium and maintain – based on average actual cost of disputes – in and out years. Darin Cramer shared that his caucus will not approve the MPS if there isn't movement on extensive monitoring. Cody expressed his caucus' concerns with the RCS study and Hard Rock Phase 3. He explained that having it done in one year can save funds and feels that amphibian studies are not a priority. Darin Cramer commented that we can look at the budget to find funds for priorities and to make adjustments where needed.

There is a status review coming up for an amphibian studies. Darin will discuss with WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife as he already is reaching out about the status review.

Ken expressed concerns that we are sending a message that we do not care and do not want to look at outside science. Eastside Tribes will not be calling for dispute for the RCS project even though they are disagreeing with the project. Court Stanley stated that we are going to have to focus on priorities since there is most likely going to be a recession and should expect to have the budget decreased and explained that there should be a contingency fund.

Voting on MPS at the July TFW Policy meeting and will be going to the FPB in August.

FWEP

Tanner Williamson gave a presentation on the FWEP project. They are planning to begin field work this summer and landowner outreach is on-going, confirm landowner commitment to the two-year chronosequence study (does not imply participation in the BACI Study). Darin Cramer explained that there is need to identify the critical response variable for BACI. Finalize access permission and agreements, complete initial site evaluation for inclusion in the chronosequence study, select final sites from list of evaluated potential sites. There is a need to learn how Forest Practice rules are implemented with regard to forested wetlands.

Darin Cramer requested that we have a follow up on FWEP through a Policy discussion that would highlight how we understand the wetlands rules and how they are interpreted within the program.

SFLO Buffer Width Dispute – Majority/Minority Reports

Saboor Jawad presented and explained the Majority/Minority report templates. There are those that do not completely fit to either side (Majority/Minority) or what side their caucuses will be on. Saboor Jawad will send out a Buffer Matrix that needs to be filled out and sent back by June 17th. Ken Miller requested to have four alternatives for question 3 and would like to have each prescription to be presented to the Board. There is a TFW Policy special meeting on the majority/minority report template review. The special Policy Meeting is scheduled on June 21st at 9:30AM-12:00PM. Invitation was sent out.

CMER Updates

Jenny Knoth reviewed the CMER SAG Updates document and what was discussed at the last CMER meeting.

Attendees by Caucus

Conservation Caucus

*Alec Brown (WEC)

County Caucus

*Court Stanley

Large Industrial Landowner Caucus

*Darin Cramer (WFPA)

Meghan Tuttle (Weyerhaeuser/Co-chair)

Small Forest Landowner

*Ken Miller (WFFA)

State Caucus

*Brandon Austin (ECY)

Darric Lowery

*Tom O'Brien

Westside Tribal Caucus

*Jim Peters (NWIFC) Gave Ash Voting rights in his absence

Ash Roorbach (NWIFC)

Eastside Tribal Caucus

*Cody Thomas (UCUT)

Adaptive Management Program/CMER Staff

Saboor Jawad (AMPA)

Lori Clark (DNR)

Alexander Prescott (DNR)

Natalie Church (DNR)

Jenny Schofield (DNR)

Anna Toledo (DNR)

DNR Staff:

*Marc Engel (DNR/Co-chair)

Tracy Hawkins

Chris Mendoza

Greg Stewart

John Heimburg

Joe Murray

Mark Mobbs

Harry Bell

Jenelle Black