

# Timber, Fish and Wildlife Policy Committee

Thursday, September 7, 2023 // 9:00AM – 12:45PM

Hybrid Meeting

In-Person: Ecology Building located at 300 Desmond Dr. SE, Lacey, WA 98503, Room# R1S-16/17

Virtual: Zoom (Link Listed Below)

Motions	
Motion	Move/Second (Vote)
<p><b>August 2023 Meeting Notes</b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Jim Peters moved to approve the August 2023 minutes.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Court Stanley</p> <p><b>Up:</b> Brandon Austin, Darin Cramer, Marc Engel, Dave Roberts, Jim Peters, Court Stanley, and Rico Vinh.</p> <p><b>Abstain:</b> Cody Thomas</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Melissa Gildersleeve</p>
<p><b>Potential Habitat Breaks (PHB) Charter</b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Court Stanley moved to approve the Potential Habitat Breaks (PHB) Charter.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Jim Peters</p> <p><b>Up:</b> Brandon Austin, Darin Cramer, Marc Engel, Dave Roberts, Jim Peters, Court Stanley, and Cody Thomas.</p> <p><b>Abstain:</b> Rico Vinh</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Melissa Gildersleeve</p>
<p><b>Default Physical Criteria Assessment (DPC) Charter</b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Jim Peters moved to approve the Default Physical Criteria Assessment (DPC) Charter.</p> <p>The motion passed</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Court Stanley</p> <p><b>Up:</b> Brandon Austin, Darin Cramer, Marc Engel, Dave Roberts, Jim Peters, Court Stanley, and Cody Thomas.</p> <p><b>Abstain:</b> Rico Vinh</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Melissa Gildersleeve</p>

Action Items	
Action Items	Responsibility
AFF to be discussed at the next workgroup meeting SAO Workgroup	September Workgroup Agenda

Meet to discuss what the AFF disagreements are and then have one on one meetings with each caucus.	Co-chairs and AMPA
Send out track changes and clean version of TFW Policy Operating Manual before the regular mailing.	Lori Clark
Voting Abstain vs. Sideways:	October (September 26 <sup>th</sup> ) Agenda
Schedule a one-on-one meeting with Lori and Rico to discuss CMER Reform	Lori Clark

**Caucus Updates:**

- This is Cody Thomas’ first meeting as a TFW Policy co-chair.
- Brandon Austin explained that he is now working for WDFW.
- Brandon Austin read two ground rules:
  - B1. The Policy Committee table welcomes representatives from nine caucuses, their designated alternates and those in senior leadership positions with a participating federal, state agency, tribal, county, landowner or environmental organization.
  - C1. Participants commit to search for opportunities to solve problems collaboratively. Participants acknowledge that solving problems or issues of other caucuses is more likely to lead to solutions for one's own problems and issues.

**Staff Updates:**

- Lori Clark explained that the October Policy meeting will be on September 26<sup>th</sup> in Spokane and that there will be a virtual option as well. The November meeting will be at WFPA, December will be virtual, and 2024 meetings will be at the DNR Compound in Tumwater.

**CMER Updates:**

Aimee McIntyre CMER co-chair reviewed the CMER SAG Updates document and what was discussed at last month’s CMER meeting.

**Public Comments:**

No public comments.

**Potential Habitat Breaks (PHB) Charter:**

Lori Clark explained that these charters are being brought to Policy to ensure AMP process documents are current. Forest Practices Board assigned the Water Typing Strategy projects to Policy after PHB and DPC had already begun the Study Design phase. The Charter is one opportunity for Policy to weigh in on the project and understand the budget and timeline. Anna Toledo explained that last month Jason Walter gave a presentation on this project at TFW Policy’s August meeting.

**Default Physical Criteria Assessment (DPC) Charter:**

Cody Thomas asked for a motion since there was discussion at the previous agenda item. Jason Walter explained that PHB Study Design has been approved by ISPR so the charter will not change but, the DPC Study Design is currently being working on.

**Water Typing Studies:**

At the August Policy meeting, the Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF) PI was approved with a commitment for Policy to continue to address unresolved issues. Darin expressed interest in being more involved with the water typing studies. The AMPA requested feedback from Policy on what topics they would like to address with Triangle so that a work order can be developed. Conversations and facilitation will begin this fall. Darin Cramer wrote in the chat “Performance objective(s) for WTing components (PHB, DPC, LiDAR model, AFF) remain unclear, not agreed to.” Cody Thomas explained that he wasn’t at the meeting but his opinion is that there isn’t a real reason to have facilitated discussions now but there could be one in the future. Court Stanley explained that he feels that Policy needs to have a conversation to work out the differences. Lori Clark explained that what she is hearing that there should be a discussion at the workgroup level and the history of the Water Typing studies be presented at an upcoming TFW Policy meeting. She asked what the presentation should look like. Brandon Austin suggested that the co-chairs and the AMPA meet then do one on ones with each caucus to find out what needs to be discussed. It was decided that there is not a need for facilitation at this point as Policy needs to have a discussion on what is the actual disagreement.

### **TFW Policy Operating Manual:**

As a reminder, Greer with Triangle attended the April 19th Policy Workgroup meeting. Policy was given the opportunity to provide input the outline. From that draft outline, Greer presented the draft Operating Manual at the May 17th Policy Workgroup meeting. The August meeting was for Policy to discuss the comments/edits. At the August meeting TFW Policy members requested to extend the comment period to the end of business on August 24th. Lori did receive some very helpful comments and suggestions for edits. The goal for the TFW Policy meeting is to review the edits and discuss some of the comments that need consideration. Lori Clark shared her screen and reviewed the comments/edits that needed to have a discussion.

Lori will make final edits based on the discussion and feedback to the TFW Policy Manual and send it back to Policy in advance of the next Policy meeting. This will be a decision item at the September 26<sup>th</sup> Policy meeting. Once approved, BM Section 22, part 2.2 will be revised to add language referencing this document similarly to the PSM. Tracy Hawkins will bring the edits to the Board Manual to the September meeting for Policy to review.

### **Voting Abstain vs. Sideways:**

This topic was raised in the Operating Manual edits by at least 2 people so Lori explained that she thought it might be good to bring this forward as an agenda item. Policy members in the past have used the term “sideways” when voting. But per Robert’s Rules, there is no sideways vote. There is yes, no, and abstention. According to Robert’s Rules, abstention votes don’t count as up or down, and they don’t count towards the vote. The article hyperlinked offered 6 reasons that board members may choose to abstain, and members may note their reason for abstaining: conflict of interest, fear of having a lone or minority opinion, disagreement, internal conflict, lack of sufficient information, or lack of focus on board activities. There is also a recusal from voting when a member would like to remove themselves from a particular matter but in this scenario the member withdraws from the entire discussion. Policy may decide to note the reason for abstention and Natalie can record this in the notes. It was decided that next month this will be a decision item, on whether to continue to use sideways or not.

### **SharePoint Online Refresher:**

Anna Toledo gave a presentation on editing and reviewing documents on SharePoint Online.

### **CMER Reform:**

In response to the SAO report, Policy developed the Net Gains options which included CMER reform as one area of improvement for the AMP. The Board approved the Net Gains Options and asked that Policy further develop this recommendation for Board consideration. Policy members requested that the AMPA

do individual caucus meetings to gather information on potential CMER reform options and provide a summary of areas of agreement for Policy consideration. The AMP memo summarizes Policy member's input and offers 3 CMER reform options for Policy discussion today. This is a decision item at the September board meeting and the recommendations will be provided to the FPB at their November meeting.

Two suggestions for revising CMER membership: 1. Limit the number of voting members to one per caucus, and 2. Establish minimum requirements for CMER members to meet the needs of CMER. This can be either expertise, education, and/or experience.

Although there is a proposal in the Board-approved Net Gains options to modify the structure of CMER by replacing the current committee with an independent research organization, most Policy caucus representatives shared the view that starting with one or both of these 2 recommendations would be a good incremental improvement to the AMP.

Increasing CMER and Policy interaction opportunities. To improve communication between these committees, the co-chairs have been meeting monthly since fall 2022, as well as the transmission memo template that both CMER and Policy approved earlier this year. There may be an opportunity for a topic-based joint Policy/CMER conference in 2024, and as needed.

Increasing accountability for timelines, policies and guidelines. There is a note that AMP staff have improved the 23-25 biennium contracts to standardize expectations, deliverables-based agreements, and level of detail for Personal Service Contracts, Inter-Agency Agreements, and cooperator contracts to make progress on this recommendation. There are 3 additional suggestions listed for consideration: 1. CMER member accountability, including replacing members if they do not adhere to ground rules. This recommendation would need to add a process to the PSM for accountability monitoring and removal. 2. Include AMP member participant accountability metrics in AMP biennial audit to inform the upcoming biennial contract, and 3. Rotate SAG co-chair terms among caucuses so that there is an opportunity to share the responsibility and to bring in new ideas and perspectives.

**RCS Prospective 6 Questions:**

Anna Toledo gave a brief background of the document and explained that Rachel Rubin will be giving a presentation on the pilot rule and be a decision item at the October (September 26<sup>th</sup>) TFW Policy meeting.

**List of Attendees**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representing</b>
§Austin, Brandon	WDFW/TFW Policy Co-chair
§Cramer, Darin	Large Industrial Landowner Caucus/WFPA
§Engel, Marc	State Caucus/DNR
§ Roberts, Dave	Small Forest Landowner/WFFA
§Peters, Jim	Westside Tribes/NWIFC
§Stanley, Court	TFW Policy Co-chair/WSAC
§Thomas, Cody	Eastside Tribe Caucus/UCUT
§Vinh, Rico	WEC/Conservation Caucus
Aikman, Nikki	Suquamish Tribe
Bell, Harry	CMER Voting Member
Bretherton, Welles	CMER Voting Member/ Dept. Of Ecology
Church, Natalie	Administrative Assistant/DNR
Clark, Lori	Adaptive Management Administrator
Hawkins, Tracy	DNR
Henkel, Theryn	Supervisory Project Manager/DNR

Heimburg, John	WDFW
Hooks, Doug	WFPA
Jawad, Saboor	Forest Regulation Division Manager
Knoth, Jenny	WFFA/CMER Co-chair
Mendoza, Chris	CMER Voting Member/Conservation Caucus
Mitchell, Robert	Member of Public
McIntyre, Aimee	WDFW/CMER Voting Member
Mobbs, Mark	Quinalt Indian Nation
Murray, Joe	RSAG Co-chair
Prescott, Alexander	Project Manager/DNR
Roorbach, Ash	Westside Tribes/NWIFC
Rubin, Rachel	CMER Scientist
Schofield, Jenny	Project Manager/DNR
Smith, Kendra	Skagit
Toledo, Anna	Project Manager/DNR
Weekes, Anne	
Zirkle, Karen	DNR

§TFW Policy Voting Member