Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee (CMER)
August 27, 2019
DNR/DOC Industrial Park, Tumwater WA

Attendees	Representing
§Baldwin, Todd (ph)	Kalispel Tribe of Indians
§Bell, Harry	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Black, Jenelle	Member of Public
chesney, charles (ph)	Member of Public
Davis, Emily	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Ehinger, Bill	Department of Ecology
§Hayes, Marc	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Heimburg, John	Department of Fish & Wildlife
Hernandez, Emily	Department of Natural Resources
Hicks, Mark	Department of Natural Resources – AMPA
Hooks, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association – CMER Co-Chair
§Kay, Debbie (ph)	Suquamish Tribe
§Kroll, AJ	Weyerhaeuser
§Lizon, Patrick	Department of Ecology
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
McIntyre, Aimee	Department of Fish and Wildlife
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus – CMER Co-Chair
§Mobbs, Mark	Quinault Nation
Murray, Joe	Washington Forest Protection Association
Peters, Jim	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Schuett-Hames, Dave	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Stewart, Greg	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Roorbach, Ash	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources – CMER Cooridnator
Thomas, Cody (ph)	Spokane Tribe

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

*Indicates Decision

Mark Hicks began his duties for DNR as AMPA on August 1st. Mark Hicks reported that we are starting to have problems with ISPR. It is getting hard to get Associate editors and reviewers for our projects. Some of this seems to be related to the long time commitment to work through the reviews with our authors. Reviewers under our contract are not necessarily available to continue reviewing changes, and they are only contractually required to clarify their comments for 30 days. Mark requested CMER to get comments back within 30 days so the ISPR reviewers are still available. He also took a moment to remind CMER that PM's are the liaison with contractors, so please funnel communications to contractors through them.

Chris Mendoza and Doug Hooks reviewed the assignment log and it was updated.

Decisions:

CMER

- ***CMER Ground Rules** – *approval*
  Emily Hernandez reported that the document includes the rules from the original document and she streamlined and reviewed the document to ensure that there are no inconsistencies with the rules or DNR's Board Manual Section 22.

  Mendoza motioned to approve the CMER Ground Rules and Code of Conduct to be incorporated into the PSM, Marc Hayes seconded - **Approved**

- ***Extended Monitoring Request Form** – *approval*
  Hooks gave background on the report/form. He reported that Hicks provided comments on the form (in his capacity as a CMER voting member prior to assuming the AMPA responsibilities) and Doug Martin submitted comments on the report after the document went out. Doug Martin's comments were reviewed.

  Mendoza went over the process of project development and explained that the form is a way for proponents to explain the reasoning for extending monitoring beyond a study's initial design. Hicks remarked that he feels there should be something to trigger the need for extended monitoring, not just the desire to. He felt the report was better than the form. Discussion revolved around whether or not the findings report should address if extended monitoring is needed, and what the outcome of extended monitoring would address.

  Mendoza remarked that the form is the result of a Board request to Policy / CMER to develop a process for when extended monitoring is needed, and suggested just approving the report and developing something for Policy later. Hicks remarked that he feels CMER needs to be clearer at the beginning on what we hope to learn from extended monitoring.

  Martin moved to approve sending the report to Policy, and to send the form back to the sub-group for further clarification. Mobbs seconded - **Approved**

LWAG

- ***Post-Harvest Amphibian Genetics** – *findings report approval*
  Aimee McIntyre reminded everyone that the report was approved at the July meeting, but the answers to the six questions was not. She reported that the comments have been addressed and the document was sent out a week before the regular CMER mailing. Chris Mendoza pointed out typos in the document. Dave Schuett-Hames remarked that RSAG had discussed at their last meeting the need for including all related studies in the CMER work plan and he felt that it just confuses the findings. RSAG thought that the findings report could list other studies in case Policy members were interested in looking them up,

and keeping the findings report concise and only about the study. Doug Martin thanked McIntyre for addressing his comments and he agrees with just listing similar studies, that the findings reports are too long and should be no more than four (4) pages.

Hayes moved to approve findings report with the typos corrected, Hayes, Mobbs - **Approved**

- ***Hard Rock Extended Report** – *approval to send to ISPR*
  McIntyre reported that there are still some comments to resolve, there are a few from Bell. He remarked that he was having difficulty linking his comments to the comments in the original version of the report and that he thinks that his comments have already been resolved. Hooks said that Martin has some comments; Martin remarked that he thinks they are close to resolving the comments and that he had the same issue as Bell. Bill Ehinger remarked that he feels that they can work out the comments with a conference call with Bell and Martin. Hooks remarked that the report will be on the September agenda for approval, and if it does not appear that the comments are resolved by a week before the September meeting then dispute resolution will be invoked. McIntyre remarked that she feels that the unresolved comments can be addressed and there will be no need for dispute resolution. McIntyre remarked that there is a large amount of track changes, so she would like to suggest accepting all the changes and only including the unresolved comments on the draft that goes out next month. Hicks suggested voting on it so it is on record that their comments were addressed, then everyone's comments that were addressed can be accepted and only Bell's and Martin's comments will be in the document.

  Hayes moved to approve accepting track changes in the report, except for future edits based on Bell and Martin's as of yet unresolved comments. Mobbs seconded – **Approved**

  Mobbs moved to have the PIs meet with Bell and Martin, and other previous commenters if they would like to be involved, to resolve comments. If comments are unresolved, the PI's will let CMER Co-Chairs know so that dispute resolution can be cued up for the September meeting. Martin seconded – **Approved**

  Next steps: PIs will meet with reviewers to address remaining comments within next couple of weeks so the final report can go out a couple weeks before the September meeting.

RSAG

- ***Hardwood Conversion Report** – *findings report approval*
  Joe Murray reported that the report was approved last month and RSAG is requesting that both the report and answers to the six questions go to Policy. Mendoza remarked that he

wasn't able to attend the last RSAG meeting because he was on vacation and that he tried to conference call without success due to poor cell service and he's not prepared to approve it. Murray remarked that the request for comments was made at the June meeting and all comments were incorporated. Mendoza remarked that as a voting CMER member he is not going to approve it. He remarked that his comments are not major and should be able to be addressed quickly. He will get them submitted and they can be addressed at the next CMER meeting for approval in September. He asked for the RSAG minutes from the meeting then they were approved.

Bell moved to approve the findings report. Martin seconded, Mendoza nay – **Not approved**

Next Steps: Mendoza will submit edits to the findings report in time for the author (Joe Murray) to address them for approval at the September CMER meeting.

- ***Extensive Temperature Report** – *answers to six questions approval*
  Murray remarked that comments on the original findings report have been addressed and RSAG is asking for approval. Mendoza remarked that his one main concern is that there was language from the main report already approved by CMER consensus that was taken verbatim in answering the six questions, that was now being challenged and edited by CMER reviewer Martin. He would like to see the original language from the main report added back in. Murray remarked that the changes were made to be more readable. Martin remarked that he agreed with Murray, especially given the earlier conversation about keeping the findings reports more readable.

  Martin move to approve the findings report. Hayes seconded, Mendoza nay – **Not approved**

  Next steps: Mendoza will work with the authors of the answers to the six questions to resolve issues and come back to CMER in September for approval.

- ***Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project** – *request for additional funding*
  Murray reported that this was approved in May but were waiting for the August Board meeting before moving forward. The project team is asking for approval now.

  Hicks remarked that as AMPA he approves the use of contingency funds for this.

  Bell moved to approve. Hayes seconded – **Approved**

SAGE

- ***Eastside Modeling Effectiveness Project (EMEP)** – *request for additional funds*
  Hernandez reported that the ISPR review was delayed and this request is for approval of funds to have the author, Kevin Cedar with Cramer Fish Sciences, to finish the report with ISPR comments.

  Todd Baldwin moved to approve. Hayes seconded – **Approved**

Discussion:

- **CMER Co-Chair** – *replacement for Doug Hooks*
  Hooks asked if there were any nominations for his replacement.
  Hayes remarked that discussion from the last meeting was the initial intent was for co-chair to rotate through voting members. Not all CMER members have financial support and it would be nice to have a mechanism for support. Discussion revolved around what requirements there are and options for funding.

  Next steps: Hicks will address this at a future meeting, the topic was added to the CMER assignments tracking list

- **Hard Rock Extended Report** – *discussion on timeline of analysis*
  Ehinger was asked when the data analysis would be available. He replied that he can write up short memo by June 2020.

Updates:

- **Report from the Board** – *August 14, 2019 meeting*
  Hicks gave an update on the August 14 Board meeting:
  - Master Project Schedule (MPS) Approved – talked about minor changes to MPS. Validation Study line does not exist, however, there is money in water typing strategy for both fiscal years.
  - Principle capacity building exercise, Policy will be next, and then CMER if budget/time allows. Principles from Board thought the consultant did a very good job. Some people were disappointed that there wasn't follow-up.
  - Small Forest Landowner demographics presentation.
  - Potential Habitat Break group thinks they are making progress and would like to continue. Board approved. Anadromous floor was added. Board intends to keep control of project, may bring in CMER later.
  - Board moved Buffer Shade report to Type N Workgroup and did not take action.
  - Type N workgroup approved. The workgroup consists of six outside technical experts and two Policy co-chairs and support staff from the AMP/DNR. The AMPA was going to reach out to the participants to clarify the expectations and

ensure they will be committed to the process. The workgroup scope of work had been drafted.
  - Policy is taking the lead in examining costs of ENREP study to understand what they are getting for it.
  - AMPA and Policy Co-Chairs gave updates on changes to budget.

Forest Practices Board meeting minutes are located on the Department of Natural Resources web page at https://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/forest-practices-board.

- **Report from Policy** – *August 1, 2019 meeting*
  Hicks gave a report on the Policy meeting.

  Timber Fish & Wildlife Policy meeting minutes are located on the Department of Natural Resources web page at http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/forest-practices-board/tfw-policy-committee.

- **AMP Positions** – *update on EP4, Administrative Assistant, and CMER Scientists recruitments*
  Hicks gave an update on the vacant AMP positions. Eastside Scientist position description form (PDF) has been approved and he is working on securing office space at Ecology in Spokane. EP4 and Eastside Scientist recruitments are ready to be posted. The Administrative Assistant PDF is still in development, but the hope is to have it approved and to recruit as soon as possible. Jim Peters reported that an offer has been made for Dave's replacement and they should have answer next week.

- **ENREP** – *project update and policy questions*
  Emily gave a summary of the ENREP status update from the project team and the questions that Policy had requested. Bill Ehinger was present and Tim Link and Chuck Hawkins called in to review the update and answer questions. Policy questions were reviewed and discussed. Martin suggested that the project team answer the questions to the best of their ability and CMER weigh in after. Bell would like a more vigorous discussion on why going from six to five sites is no big deal.

  Next steps: Project Team will address the Policy questions related to them. They will be sent in the CMER mailing for review at the September meeting.

- **CMER and SAG updates** – *answer questions on written updates*
  Updates were reviewed and questions answered.

Public Comment
charles chesney provided comments and referenced a table from a 2011 SAGE meeting that still had not been addressed.

Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- CMER Ground Rules and Code of Conduct approved to be incorporated into the PSM.
- Extended Monitoring Report approved to go to Policy. The form will go back to the sub-group for further clarification.
- Post-Harvest Amphibian Genetics findings report approved.
- Hard Rock Extended report approved to accept comments of all edits except Harry Bell's and Doug Martin's. PIs will meet with Bell and Martin, and other reviewers if they want to participate, to resolve comments. Revised report will be sent out a couple weeks before the September meeting for approval at the meeting. If comments cannot be resolved, the PIs will notify CMER Co-Chairs to queue up dispute resolution at September meeting.
- Hardwood Conversion findings report not approved. Chris Mendoza will submit edits in time for Joe Murray to address for approval at the September CMER meeting.
- Extensive Temperature findings report not approved. Chris Mendoza will work with Bill Ehinger to resolve issues in time for approval at the September CMER meeting.
- RSAG Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project request for additional funding approved.
- SAGE EMEP request for additional funding approved.
- Mark Hicks will discuss CMER co-hair funding/rotation at future meeting.
  ENREP Project Team will address the Policy questions related to them. They will be sent in the CMER mailing for review at the September meeting.

Adjourned @ 2:48