

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee  
(CMER)  
March 25, 2014  
DNR Southeast Region Office, Ellensburg**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Andrews, Garren	Department of Natural Resources
§Baldwin, Todd	Kalispel Tribe of Indians, CMER Co-Chair
Bell, Harry (ph)	Green Crow
chesney, charles	Department of Natural Resources
Gauthier, Marc (ph)	Upper Columbia United Tribes
Haemmerle, Howard	Department of Natural Resources
Hays, Marc (ph)	Department of Fish & Wildlife
§Hicks, Mark	Department of Ecology, CMER Co-Chair
Hotvedt, Jim	Department of Natural Resources, AMPA
Kurtenbach, Amy	Department of Natural Resources
Jaspers, Kodi-Jo	Colville Tribe
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protections Association
McIntyre, Aimee (ph)	Department of Fish & Wildlife
§Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus
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
§Sturhan, Nancy (ph)	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Terwilleger, Karen	Washington Forest Protection Association

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

\*Indicates decisions

**Science Session:**

◆ **\*Review and Approval of CMER 2015 Budget**

Marc Hicks reviewed the changes to the 2015 CMER budget due to the fund balance issues in the Forests and Fish Support Account (FFSA).

Concerns were raised about the amount allocated to complete the Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study (Hard Rock). Amy McIntyre and Amy Kurtenbach explained the work that still needs to be done in the report writing and review as well as the resampling.

Chris Mendoza expressed concern that \$80,000 allocated for a contractor to participate on the Eastside Type N Buffer Effectiveness TWIG did not go before CMER for approval since he was being paid through the FFSA participation agreement with

Washington Family Forest Association (WFFA). Doug Martin commented that he thought CMER had discussed that in order to have enough people with technical expertise on the TWIGS they may have to pay for outside contractors to participate. Chris stated that he believed that the contract went against CMERs policy to not award contracts to contractors for projects generated by committees they served on. Jim Hotvedt stated that this agreement is for the contactor to continue to participate in the TWIG in an expanded role due to the direction from Policy to split the project into two parts, perennial and dry. He went on to say that the amount allocated to WFFA in their participation agreement is not sufficient enough to cover the costs of the contractor's expanded role on the TWIG.

Karen Terwilleger stated that she is going to ask Policy to do some contingency planning with CMER for budget issues that may come up during the next legislative session. She is concerned about the small amount of fund balance going forward.

Chris Mendoza voted no for the \$80,000 allocated on line #16, column K, for the project entitled "Eastside Type N Effectiveness – Dry Streams. All others voted yes with no abstentions. Chris will submit a memo to be presented to Policy to explain why he voted no. (In a later e-mail to Jim Hotvedt dated March 28, 2014, Chris rescinded his "no" vote and changed it to a "thumbs sideways" vote. Consequently, the budget was transmitted to the TFW Policy committee as a Consensus budget.)

## **Business Session:**

### **Coordinators Corner**

#### ◆ **\*Approval of February 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Chris Mendoza provided edits to the minutes. The edits were reviewed and most were accepted. **Approved with accepted edits.**

### **CMER**

#### ◆ **\*CMER Science Conference – *Set date***

Discussion revolved around whether or not there is sufficient material to present at the conference. Gregg Stewart suggested that conference be held in January or February right before the development of the 2016 budget. There was agreement and the members tentatively set February 11th & 12th as the dates for the conference. Patti Shramek will check for venue availability.

### **WetSAG**

#### ◆ **\*Forested Wetland Literature Synthesis – *Approval to send to ISPR***

Harry Bell requested approval to send report through the ISPR process.  
**Approved**

## RSAG

- ◆ **\*Eastside Type F Solar Temperature Report – Approval of six questions and findings report to be forwarded to Policy**

Todd Baldwin moved that the six questions and findings be forwarded to Policy in May.

**Approved**

## Updates:

### **Report from Policy – March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

Todd Baldwin gave the following report:

- ◆ First day:
  - ❖ Dedicated to review and approval of the CMER Work Plan. The Work Plan was approved with the addition of an appendix regarding Schedule L-1 questions. The appendix will be added Work Plan is submitted to the Board for approval and will include issues that need to be addressed during revisions to the Work Plan for 2016.
- ◆ Second Day:
  - ❖ Westside Type F TWIG Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project TWIG was approved with caveat from Dick Miller that it would be a short term, not long term, study.
  - ❖ Type F dispute resolution discussion regarding off channel habitat, electrofishing and LiDAR. Discussion revolved around what needs to be done on the first two topics. CMER members may be asked to attend field trips to westside and eastside for off channel habitat and a workshop on electrofishing to provide technical expertise.

## TWIG

- ◆ **Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Study Design TWIG – Update**

Greg Stewart reported that TWIG is continuing to move ahead with Phil Peterson to hire crews to get temporal data.

charles chesney suggested using the FHS model for the study. Greg said they are for perennial part but doesn't make sense for dry part.

- ◆ **Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project TWIG – Update**

Dave Schuett-Hames reported that TWIG has been formed and they have had two meetings, one in person one conference call in which they developed the problem statement and critical questions. Howard Haemmerle and Chris Mendoza gave an update at last Policy meeting and got approval. The TWIG is moving ahead and hopes to come up with some study alternatives to submit to CMER in the next month or two.

## LWAG

### ◆ **Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment in Hard Rock Lithologies Study – *Status of chapters***

Amy Kurtenbach reported that the next three chapters of the report will be submitted for review at the April meeting. The PIs will come to the meeting to give a brief summary of the chapters.

## SAGE

### ◆ **Eastside Type N Forest Hydrology Study – *Status of draft report***

Kodi-Jo Jaspers reported that SAGE went over draft report reviewer comments and sent them to Amy Kurtenbach to forward to contractor. Amy clarified that that some of comments in matrix were assigned to SAGE members to address and the rest were sent to Contractor.

Charles Chesney stated that there was a lot of conversation at the SAGE meeting around data and that some comments were going to go to CMER. He asked where that was at. Todd Baldwin said that time should be scheduled during a future science session to explain where Chesney is coming from. Mark Hicks expressed concern about having a presentation before the report has been submitted for review. Nancy Sturhan suggested that if there was a presentation that all sides would participate. She said that she would like to know if SAGE is agreeable to the presentation. The decision was made that SAGE will review the non-contractor related comments and, if there is disagreement, resulting comments will be forwarded to CMER for a decision.

## CMER

### ◆ **CMER Task List – *Review and update***

The CMER task list was reviewed and updated. The following tasks were removed:

- ❖ Eastside Performance Targets – Jim Hotvedt will inform Policy of the removal of this task at the next Policy meeting.
- ❖ Inform Extensive Monitoring Debate –the RSAG Extensive Monitoring document will be added to the April CMER meeting agenda for review and approval to move forward to Policy.

## CMER/SAG Recap of Assignments/Decisions

- ◆ Future agenda item: discuss changes to make report review process and costs of reviews more efficient.
- ◆ Chris Mendoza will provide a memo to be sent to Policy explaining why he didn't approve the \$80,000 in the budget for the Eastside Type N Effectiveness – Dry Streams project.
- ◆ Add \$50,000 back to the EWRAP budget in 2016 instead of eliminating it entirely.

- ◆ CMER Science Conference is set for February 11th and 12th. Patti Shramek will check to see if the OB2 auditorium is available for those dates.
- ◆ SAGE will review non contractor related comments for the Eastside Type N Hydrology Study and, if there is disagreement, resulting comments will be forwarded to CMER for decision.
- ◆ Jim Hotvedt will add the removal of the Eastside Performance Targets task from the CMER task list to the CMER update for the April Policy meeting.
- ◆ RSAG Extensive Monitoring document will be added to the April CMER meeting agenda for review and approval to move forward to Policy.