

CMER SAG UPDATES

April 2021

WetSAG

Co-Chairs: Debbie Kay & Harry Bell

AMP Project Manager: Eszter Munes

Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Project

- A subgroup was formed to work on the Site Selection and Data Management document (Harry B., Debbie K, Jenelle B., Eszter M., and Amy Y.). Subgroup members have made progress on the document and expect to continue working on it through April 2021. They are currently building maps for preliminary site selection, determining variables to be measured, equipment needs, and site layout.
- Some equipment has been purchased and will be field tested in the coming months.
- WetSAG has reviewed and approved an updated budget for FWEP. The estimates have been incorporated into the current working version of the Master Project Schedule. The SAG will update the Project Charter with the new budget, timeline, and project team information, and bring to CMER by May 2021.

Wetlands Intrinsic Potential Tool- WIP

- The WIP Final Report and the Six Questions Document will be submitted to CMER for approval in April 2021.
- The contractor will provide Jenelle Black and possibly others with training on use of the WIP tool prior to the end of FY21.

Wetlands Management Zone

- Debbie Kay has taken the lead on developing a task list for the scoping phase of WMZ, including some preliminary GIS work to inform scoping discussions and generating a list of wetland functions to evaluate for inclusion in the study. Update to the project charter is in progress. Additional tasks and a work plan will be forthcoming.
- Per the MPS approved by the FP Board at their August meeting, all funding for the WMZ project was delayed until FY 26 (study design) with implementation funding slated to begin in FY 28.

UPSAG

Co-Chairs: Ted Turner & Kara Whittaker

AMP Project Manager: Teresa Miskovic

Deep-Seated Landslide Research Strategy

- Work is continuing on study design development, with the current target being to have a draft study design by summer 2021.

SAGE

Chair: Todd Baldwin

AMP Project Manager: Teresa Miskovic

Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project (ETHEP)

- CMER review of the scoping document was initiated at the September 22nd meeting and comments were received and incorporated into the response matrix and scoping document. The document came to CMER for approval at the February meeting and it was not approved. It was requested the reviewers work with the author and project team to address concerns and bring back to the March CMER meeting for approval.
- The scoping document was revised to address the remaining concerns and it was approved at the March CMER meeting.
- The answers to the prospective 6 questions were approved at the April SAGE meeting and will come to CMER for approval at the April CMER.

Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP)

- Harvest at the Springdale basin began at the end of February and is anticipated to be completed by the end of April. The last pre-harvest forest mensuration and stream cross section measurements were taken prior to harvest.
- One trip was made to exchange batteries, collect stream sediment samples, perform general site maintenance, and download data from all 10 SedEvent systems.
- All raw data has been backed up and QA/QC and data processing is underway.
- Harvest is anticipated to begin at the Blue Grouse site in late May and for the Tripps site in early to mid-June. RMZ boundaries will be checked prior to harvest to ensure they are as close to the FPR 50 foot width as feasible.

RSAG

Chair: Joe Murray

AMP Project Managers: Teresa Miskovic (RCS), Eszter Munes (Soft Rock, Type F, LWD, Smart Buffer, SFLO)

Riparian Characteristics and Shade Response Study

- The study design and response matrix was revised based on CMER comments and the CMER reviewers reviewed the revisions and approved the study design. The study design came to CMER for approval to send to ISPR at the January CMER meeting and it was not approved. RSAG, the PM, and author worked with the reviewers to address their concerns. The study design was approved to send to ISPR at the March meeting.
- Todd Baldwin will provide a memo to CMER and Policy that describes the Eastside tribes concerns that remain with the study design.
- Additional treatments were proposed by some RSAG members to add to the current study. The additional treatments were considered by RSAG and CMER and consensus was not reached. The dispute resolution process was invoked over proposing adding the additional treatments to the current study design and the process the additional treatments were proposed.

- An informal meeting was held on March 10th and the issues could not be resolved so the interested parties provided position papers to the AMPA by March 16th as agreed.
- On March 18th the AMPA and CMER co-chairs met and came to consensus that the issues were a process dispute in accordance with the CMER PSM and AMP board manual. This consensus decisions means the dispute has ended in CMER and the dispute resolution process is complete. As a result CMER approved sending the study design to ISPR without the add-on. Further details are included in the write up provided by the AMPA to CMER.

Type N Soft Rock Final report

- **ISPR Review of Final Report:** All chapters have undergone ISPR review and returned to the authors by December 2020. Authors expect to complete revisions for all Chapters by early May, with the exception of Chapter 5 – *Stream discharge, turbidity, and suspended sediment export*, which is being considered for removal from the report. The authors will propose a format to include a reference to Chapter 5 in the Final Report when the ISPR review process is complete.
- **Extended Monitoring:** Extended monitoring data will be reported either as an addendum to the Final Report or as a separate report. CMER will make a formal recommendation to Policy after the data is presented, tentatively in fall 2021.

Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project

- The project team will complete revisions to the Exploratory Report and plan to submit to CMER in June 2021.
- The project team met in July 2020 to initiate work on the BACI study design. After the completion of the exploratory report, the team will resume working on refining study questions. An RSAG reviewed and approved study design is expected to be delivered to CMER in early 2023.
- Per the MPS approved by the FP Board at their August meeting, all funding for the implementation of the Westside Type F project was delayed until FY 25. The project team will continue to work on the study design and other project elements utilizing internal resources in the interim.

Extensive Status and Trends Monitoring Workshop

- The workshop was held January 29th, 2021. The Policy workgroup is continuing to discuss next steps for Extensive Monitoring based on information shared at the workshop.

WFPA Smart Buffer Design

- In January 2021, the author, Doug Martin, responded to a third round of revisions on the study design. The author met with reviewers on Feb 11 and March 1, 2021 to discuss additional revisions, outstanding concerns, and a pathway forward. The group agreed that the review process has reached its conclusion. The study design will go to CMER for approval to send the report for ISPR review.
- On February 10, 2021, RSAG passed the following motion: "I motion that RSAG recommend to CMER that we do an open ISPR review of the Smart Buffer study design." However, this is a CMER decision and they have not voted to submit it for an ISPR review yet.
- In March, CMER voted on but did not approve the Smart Buffer study design. Two CMER reviewers continue to work with the author on remaining issues to gain approval in April.

ISAG

Co-Chairs: Jason Walter, Cody Thomas

AMP Project Manager: Eszter Munes

Water Typing Strategy

- Projects currently included in the Water Typing Strategy are: Default Physical Criteria Assessment (DPC), Potential Habitat Breaks (PHB), LiDAR Based Water Typing Model (LiDAR), and Fish/Habitat Detection Using eDNA (eDNA).
- The ISAG water typing subgroup is currently working on the PHB study design.
- DNR is currently negotiating a contract for statistical support for the PHB project, with work expected to take place May - June 2021.

eDNA Pilot Study

- In May 2020, CMER agreed to send the eDNA Pilot Study back to Brooke, PI for revisions. The revisions were completed, moved from ISAG to CMER for approval, and presented to CMER in December 2020. The motion to approve and send the final report to Policy failed to pass and moved into dispute resolution. On February 17, 2021, CMER voting members agreed to incorporate unresolved comments and concerns (lessons learned) into Question 4 of the Six Questions document. Jason Walter drafted the document (incorporating comments from CMER members). In March, CMER members met to work on answering question 4 (what does the study tell us, what does the study not tell us.) The work continued in April and CMER expecting to approve at their May meeting.

LWAG

Co-Chairs: AJ Kroll & Aimee McIntyre

AMP Project Manager: Heather Gibbs

Hard Rock Phase II

- All chapters of the Phase II Report have been approved by ISPR
- Chapters 5- Stream Discharge, Turbidity, and Suspended Sediment and 6- Nitrogen Export were approved at the February CMER meeting.
- Chapters 1- Introduction, 2- Study Design, 3- Stand Structure, Tree Mortality, Wood Recruitment and Loading, and 4- Stream Temperature and Cover were approved at the March CMER meeting
- Chapters 7- Stream Channel Characteristics, 8- Stable Isotopes and 9- Stream-associated Amphibians were distributed to CMER in early April for review and are up for approval this month (April).
- The Executive Summary has been distributed to CMER for review with comments due back to the PI and PM by April 27, 2021.

Amphibian in Discontinuous Type Np Waters

- Drafts of a BAS Document and Scoping Document have been initiated by the Contractor.

Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring Project Team

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Charlie Luce, Tom Black, Bob Danehy, Erkan Istanbuluoglu, Amanda Manaster, Jenelle Black.

AMP Project Managers: Teresa Miskovic and Heather Gibbs (Field Coordinator)

- Year 2 data collection will be continued by West Fork Environmental and Rayonier the week of April 19th.
- Rock crushing began April 6th and was completed April 12th for rock needed for the project over the next two years.
- A RFQQ has been advertised to provide sediment analysis for the life of the project.
- A contract amendment with West Fork Environmental is completed to fabricate flow splitters at 11 high flow sites. During periods of high intensity rainfall that create high flow events, some of the flow is overtopping the tubs and is therefore bypassing the tipping bucket flow sampling and the suspended solids tank for sample collection. This situation will be remedied with the installation of flow splitter system.
- Additional trough covers and tipping buckets have been fabricated. The trough covers will help keep the troughs clear of debris and rock so road sediment can effectively be collected. The tipping buckets will replace one's that are no longer performing effectively.
- Preparation is ongoing for the Ditch-Line hydraulics experiment that will occur the week of May 3rd.

Unstable Slope Criteria Project Team

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Dan Miller, Ted Turner, Greg Stewart (CMER Staff)

AMP Project Manager: Teresa Miskovic

- Greg Stewart is using OBIA to delineate landscape features. He has been creating topographic indices, writing scripts for identifying roads and water bodies using NAIP and DTM in state plane, and exploring methods and scales for interpolating LAS into meter scale DEM's for unstable landform ID.
- The project team met March 26th to discuss the items Greg is working on, Dan Miller's work developing ArcGIS Pro Python scripts, and steps for drafting the final report. The next team meeting is scheduled for April 26th.

CMER Work Plan Improvement Group

AMP Support: Heather Gibbs

- The Work Plan Improvement Group will begin work in the spring of 2021.

Small Forest Landowner PI – Outside science review

AMP Support: Eszter Munes

- During the January CMER meeting, Harry Bell presented a proposal for dispute resolution for lack of progress on the six questions document. He provided the SFL workgroup details of the proposal during the first dispute resolution meeting on March 12, 2021.
- The group met again on March 31, 2021 to continue work on the Six Questions document. During this meeting they discussed using a different approach to review the works of Martin (SJ), Teply (Cramer review), and ISPR of Cramer review. This approach finds areas where the three documents (ISPR considered one) agree and where there is disagreement between the documents and the report. The group agreed to begin by construction tables that list, via copy-paste, the findings of the documents to begin to look for areas of similarities and differences. Two views were presented either listing by function or by prescription. Work and review of these tables is underway. The group will develop a strategy for incorporating these tables or their contents into the Six Questions Document at a future meeting (~May 2021).

Anticipated Documents for CMER Consideration/Review 2021

Project Name	Document Type	Project Manager	Science Lead/PI	Oversight Committee	Anticipated Date of Delivery
ETHEP	Scoping Document	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	SAGE	Oct-20
RCS	Study Design	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Jan-21
Hard Rock Phase II	ISPR Approved Final Report	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Feb-21
ENREP	Project Management Plan	Miskovic	Tim Link (U.I.)	SAGE	Feb-21
ETHEP	CMER Six questions document	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	SAGE	Apr-21
WIP	CMER Six question document	Munes	Meghan Halabisky (UW)	WetSAG	Apr-21
WIP	Final Report	Munes	Meghan Halabisky (UW)	WetSAG	Apr-21
Hard Rock Phase III - Amphibian Demographics	Charter	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	May-21
ETHEP	Updated Charter	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	SAGE	May-21
ENREP	Updated Charter	Miskovic	Tim Link (U.I.)	SAGE	Jun-21
FWEP	Charter	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	WetSAG	May-21
eDNA Pilot - DR	CMER Six questions document/Final Report	Munes	NA	CMER	May-21
Soft Rock	ISPR Approved Final Report	Munes	Bill Ehinger (DOE)	RSAG	Jun-21
Discontinuous Np Surface Flows	Scoping	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Jun-21
RCS	Project Management Plan	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Oct-21
Unstable Slopes Criteria Project - Landform Mapping	Final Report	Miskovic	Greg Stewart (CMER)	UPSAG	Sep-21
Westside Type F Pilot	Final Report	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	Jun-21
Hard Rock Phase III - Amphibian Demographics	Project Management Plan	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Jun-21
Potential Habitat Breaks	Study Design	Munes	TBD	ISAG	Jul-21
FWEP	Project Management Plan	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	WetSAG	Jul-21
Default Physicals Criteria	Charter	Munes	TBD	ISAG	Aug-21
Default Physicals Criteria	Project Management Plan	Munes	TBD	ISAG	Aug-21
Wetland Management Zone	Charter	Munes	TBD	WetSAG	Aug-21
Hard Rock Phase II	CMER Six questions document	Gibbs	Aimee McIntyre (WDFW)	LWAG	Aug-21
RCS	CMER Six questions document	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Sep-21

RCS	Updated Charter	Miskovic	Malia Volke (CMER)	RSAG	Sep-21
Westside Type F Pilot	CMER Six Questions Document	Munes	Jenelle Black (CMER)	RSAG	Oct-21
Deep Seated Landslide Strategy: Landslide Mapping and Classification	Study Design	Miskovic	Greg Stewart (CMER)	UPSAG	Dec-21
Unstable Slopes Criteria Project - Susceptibility and Runout	Study Design	Miskovic	Greg Stewart (CMER)	UPSAG	Dec-21
Default Physicals Criteria	Study Design	Munes	TBD	ISAG	Dec-21