

Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee (CMER)
October 24, 2017
Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue, Ellensburg WA

Attendees	Representing
§Baldwin, Todd	Kalispel Tribe – CMER Co-Chair
§Bell, Harry (ph)	Washington Farm Forestry Association
Berge, Hans	Adaptive Management Program Administrator
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Ehinger, Bill	Department of Ecology
Graham, Jason	Department of Ecology
Haemmerle, Howard (ph)	Department of Natural Resources
Hawkins, Chuck (ph)	Utah State University – ENREP TWIG
§Hicks, Mark (ph)	Department of Ecology
Hooks, Doug (ph)	Washington Forest Protection Association – CMER Co-Chair
Johnson, Angela	Department of Natural Resources
§Kay, Debbie (ph)	Suquamish Tribe
§Knoth, Jenny (ph)	Green Crow
Link, Timothy (ph)	Private Consultant – ENREP TWIG
§Martin, Doug	Washington Forest Protection Association
McClellan, Mike	Department of Fish and Wildlife
§Mendoza, Chris (ph)	Conservation Caucus
Murray, Joe	Washington Forest Protection Association
Regmi, Netra	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commissions – CMER Staff
Roorbach, Ash (ph)	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Schuett-Hames, Dave	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - CMER Staff
Shramek, Patti	Department of Natural Resources – CMER Coordinator
Stewart, Greg (ph)	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission – CMER Staff
Tepley, Mark (ph)	Cramer Fish Sciences – ENREP TWIG

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

*Indicates Decision

Agenda update: ENREP TWIG discussion about combining wet and dry portions of the study.

Science Session:

Presentation BTO Add-on – *Final Data Analysis*

Dave Schuett-Hames gave a presentation on the BTO Add-on study and he and Todd Baldwin answered questions.

Next Steps: Comments for report were due October 23. The report should come to CMER no later than January for approval.

Decisions:

CMER

◆ ***September 2017 CMER meeting minutes**

Patti Shramek asked if anyone had edits for the September meeting minutes. There were no edits.

Baldwin motioned to approve, Debbie Kay seconded - **Approved**

RSAG

***Hardwood Conversion** – *final CMER approval and decision on sending document to ISPR*

Joe Murray asked for approval of report. Murray moved to approve the report, Martin seconded - **Approved**

There was discussion about whether or not the report should be sent to ISPR. Murray commented that he thought it should go, Martin agreed. They both felt ISPR would give them good input, even though they were just case studies. Martin felt it would be good to have people who were involved in the study at the beginning review it to get their input. Chris Mendoza replied that he didn't feel it should go to ISPR because they are case studies, not effectiveness projects. He remarked that CMER decided not to send the report to ISPR when the original report was approved. Shramek replied that she recalled that the vote was to not send it to ISPR and wait until 2016 resample data was incorporated into it to decide, but she would have to look back at the meeting minutes to confirm. Mendoza replied that, per the PSM, RSAG should submit majority/minority report. Hans Berge said he agreed with Mendoza regarding PSM, and that CMER shouldn't revisit previous decisions. Berge replied that the report has changed since then, so it is appropriate to revisit the ISPR question.

Next Steps: RSAG will work on a majority/minority report and present it to CMER in December and the discussion regarding ISPR will be discussed again at that time.

WetSAG

◆ ***Wetland Mapping Tool** – *final CMER approval*

Angela Johnson gave a brief report on the project and asked for approval
Martin motioned to approve, Jenny Knoth seconded – **Approved**

Martin gave an update on the WetSAG field tour and reported some of the points at many of the sites they visited were dead on.

SAGE

◆ ***Fire Salvage Literature Review and Synthesis – final CMER approval**

Johnson gave a brief history of the project and asked for approval of the document.

Mendoza said he reviewed the summary of the Flitcroft paper and thought they didn't do it justice, but he wasn't going to fall on his sword and block approval. Mark Hicks remarked that he agreed with Mendoza, but felt it didn't really relate to fire salvage anyway.

Baldwin motioned to approve the report, Martin seconded – sideways thumb – Hicks, Mendoza – **Approved**

Updates:

CMER Co-Chair Replacement Discussion

Baldwin reported that as of December he will be CMER Co-Chair for four years and is acting as SAGE Co-Chair and is looking for someone to replace him. He also remarked that Doug Hooks is coming up to the end of his two-year term and would like to have a replacement as well.

Next Steps: If anyone is interested, please contact Baldwin, Doug Hooks, or Berge.

Report from Policy – October 5 and 7, 2017 meetings

Hans Berge reported on the October 5 and 7, 2017 Policy meetings. The meeting minutes can be found on the Department of Natural Resources web page at

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/forest-practices-board/tfw-policy-committee>.

ENREP TWIG

Howard Haemmerle reported that the ENREP TWIG would like to recommend re-combining perennial and non-perennial studies due to comments they received from ISPR. They would work with ISPR to combine this and bring it back to CMER. Baldwin asked if this is a CMER decision or if it needs to go to Policy and if both studies have a budget. Berge replied that it is a CMER decision and that they both have budgets. The perennial study is further along it was approved after going through dispute resolution, and it has gone through ISPR. Haemmerle reported that the TWIG discussed combining the studies after visiting the sites and they agree. Since the perennial study TWIG is currently addressing ISPR comments interactively, they felt they needed to come to CMER to approve re-combining the studies. Mendoza feels that it does need to go to Policy, as the TWIG went to them to get permission to split the study into wet and dry. However, he is on board with combining the studies if it will save money. Teply replied that they came to conclusion after studying hydrologic regimes in the Northern Rockies Ecoregion,

which before they had just used speculation. They would be pressed to find a completely wet or dry basin, the basins include both.

Baldwin asked if CMER was okay with the TWIG moving forward with the revised study design with ISPR before coming back to CMER for the non-perennial portion. Hicks felt they need to resolve the issues with the current study with ISPR and he feels they should move forward since they have an involved ISPR, but they can't lose sight of the fact that it will need to come back to CMER for approval. Knoth and Martin agreed. Mendoza asked TWIG if ISPR addressed the specific question; if an adequate number of sites cannot be obtained, which prescription would be the least informative in filling out the shade curve. Ehinger replied that they have weighed in. Berge remarked that if the objectives and critical questions were going to be different for the perennial vs. non-perennial, then the TWIG would need to come back to CMER first before working with ISPR. Bell said he wants to make sure the same prescriptions are in the combined review.

Decision: TWIG given permission to combine dry and wet and work with ISPR to update study design then bring back to CMER.

Ongoing and Upcoming Reviews

No ongoing reviews at this point. Berge reported that DNR has contracted a Riparian Function Literature Review and Synthesis via Policy direction. The synthesis will be coming to CMER, through RSAG, for review. It will probably go to RSAG in December or January to start the review process.

SAG and TWIG Updates – answer questions on written updates

- ◆ LWAG – Comments on Findings Report for Chapter 7 of Hard Rock study due November 10, 2017.
- ◆ PSM October meeting is canceled and there is a meeting November 9 at the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission.
- ◆ FWEP is meeting in Corvallis on Friday to continue working on study design.
- ◆ Unstable Slopes, comments from first CMER review just received, not sure how long it will take to work on them and get them back to CMER.
- ◆ BCIF should be ready for review in November.

Public Comment

No comments

Recap of Assignments/Decisions approved

- ◆ September meeting minutes approved
- ◆ Hardwood Conversion Study report approved

- ◆ RSAG will work on producing a majority/minority report regarding ISPR for the Hardwood Conversion Study and bring it back to CMER in December for a decision
- ◆ BTO Add-on report comments are in and will be incorporated and the report will come to CMER in December/January for approval
- ◆ ENREP TWIG will combine the perennial and non-perennial portions of the study and revise the study design with the help of ISPR
- ◆ Wetland Mapping Tool approved
- ◆ Fire Salvage Literature Review and Synthesis approved
- ◆ Please contact Baldwin, Hooks or Berge regarding Co-Chair positions

Adjourned