Motion to clarify and request that CMER complete work to answer the Six Questions for completed outside science, in response to TFW Policy’s July 14, 2020 request, as documented in the approved minutes of the July 14, 2020 TFW Policy Committee meeting:

“Policy transmit the SFL Template Proposal Initiation Scientific Justification, the Cramer Fish Sciences review, and the ISPR documentation as supporting materials to CMER for the purpose of responding to the 6 questions for completed outside science. CMER shall return the answers to the 6 questions as soon as possible, within 90 days after receiving draft answers to the 6 questions or as soon as possible. If additional time is needed, CMER shall make that justification to Policy at least 30 days prior to the original deadline.”

“Whereas:

- CMER is not the only source of completed science available for Policy to use;
- TFW Policy recognized by consensus the Teply / Cramer Fish Sciences review as completed science contracted by the Adaptive Management Program that followed an appropriate review process through ISPR;
- the ISPR panel did not find fatal fault with the information within the Teply / Cramer Fish Sciences review/synthesis;
- TFW Policy, in their approved July 14, 2020 motion, requested that CMER respond “to the 6 questions for completed outside science” but failed to give clear direction on the focus of the 6 questions;
- FPB-approved CMER member, Harry Bell, triggered the dispute resolution process in January 2021 on CMER’s assignment to answer the standard 6 CMER-Policy interaction questions.
- As conveyed to TFW Policy in a February 17, 2021 memo from the AMPA and CMER Co-Chairs, CMER’s formal dispute resolution process would “follow the Forest Practices AMP process outlined in FP board manual Section 22, and the CMER protocols and standards manual”;
- In a July 8, 2021 memo, several CMER members provided a “Notice of intent to Discontinue Participation in the SFLO 6-Questions Working Group” while the Group was in Stage I of Dispute Resolution;
- In an October 22, 2021 memo to TFW Policy, “the CMER Co-Chairs and AMPA have agreed that the most appropriate next step for resolution at CMER is for the disputing parties to submit position papers;
- At the January 6, 2022 TFW Policy meeting, the AMPA officially conveyed to TFW Policy the last remaining CMER documentation associated with TFW Policy’s request for CMER to respond to the six questions for completed outside science pertaining to the SFL Template Proposal Initiation Scientific Justification, the Cramer Fish Sciences review, and the ISPR documentation;
- The documentation conveyed to TFW Policy for their January 6th meeting indicated that the CMER dispute had not included arbitration or mediation to resolve the dispute invoked by Harry Bell, apparently not having followed “the Forest Practices AMP process outlined in FP Board manual Section 22, and the CMER protocols and standards manual” for technical issues, as the AMPA had conveyed to TFW Policy in the February 17, 2021 memo;
- The two papers from CMER representatives were well written, only one was responsive to the actual Policy question;
- Policy could chose to accept the responsive paper and move on, such action would not seem to be in the spirit of TFW, especially in view of the October 22, 2021 instructions from the CMER Co-Chairs and the AMPA
Therefore, the Small Forest Landowner Caucus moves that CMER be requested to complete the work of answering the 6 CMER-Policy interaction questions, based on the Cramer Fish Sciences review and synthesis authored by Mark Teply, with emphasis on 4a and 4b for each estimated Independent Function Evaluation for each proposed prescription, making clear that TFW Policy has accepted the Teply report as completed outside science and that TFW Policy’s request is for CMER’s technical responses to the 6 Questions, not making judgment on what TFW Policy might do with CMER’s answers to the 6 Questions.”