

**Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee**  
**November 27, 2007**  
**NWIFC**  
**Notes**

**Attendees:**

*Almond, Lyle	Makah Tribe
*Baldwin, Todd (v)	Kalispel Tribe, SAGE Co-Chair
Black, Jenelle	NWIFC, CMER Project Manager
*Butts, Sally	USFWS, CMER Co-Chair
Cramer, Darin	DNR Forest Practices, Adaptive Management Administrator
Dieu, Julie	Rayonier, UPSAG co-chair
*Ehinger, Bill	WDOE, RSAG Tri-Chair
Haque, Sarah	Squaxin Island Tribe
Heckel, Linda	DNR Forest Practices, CMER Coordinator
Heide, Pete	WFPA
Hicks, Mark	WDOE
*Jackson, Terry	WDFW, BTSAG Co-chair
Kurtenbach, Amy	DNR, CMER Project Manager
*Martin, Doug	WFPA contractor
*McConnell, Steve (v)	UCUT
*McCracken, Jim	Longview Timberland, LWAG Co-Chair
*Mendoza, Chris	Conservation Caucus contractor, RSAG Tri-Chair
*Miller, Dick	WA Farm Forestry Association
Moon, Teresa	DNR, CMER Project Manager
Phillips, Jeff (v)	Skagit River System Cooperative
Schuett-Hames, Dave	NWIFC, CMER Staff
Sturhan, Nancy	NWIFC, CMER Co-chair
*Vaugeois, Laura	DNR Forest Practices, UPSAG co-chair
*Veldhuisen, Curt (v)	Skagit River System Cooperative

\* indicates official CMER members and alternates

v indicates attended via video-conferencing; ph indicates attended via phone

**Assignments:**

<b>From November Meeting:</b>	
Incorporate Terry's comments into the October notes and post final notes on the website.	Linda Heckel
UPSAG will give a high- level synthesis at the December meeting on the ISPR post-mortem review.	Laura Vaugeois/Julie Dieu
Schedule a meeting of the Type N sub-group for mid-January (week of the 14 <sup>th</sup> ) and send it out via email.	Nancy Sturhan
Send the document (NWIFC report) to the CMER email list when the draft minutes are distributed.	Linda Heckel
Bring summary of BTO add-on site selection issues at the January meeting,	Terry Jackson

both the original BT study and the BTO add-on study.	
Follow-up with LWAG and WETSAG on agenda topics for the conference	Nancy Sturhan
Get an outline/summary from Jamie Glasgow of his talk and potentially invite him to a future meeting	Sally Butts
Get information from Andrew Gray regarding his poster	Sally Butts
Send out project mgmt information	Darin Cramer
Send science conference announcement to CRITFC	Sally Butts
Send science conference link to Central WA University	Jenelle Black
Post poster session guidelines on the website	Linda Heckel

<b>From October Meeting:</b>	
Presentations due to Linda by noon on 2/19/08 to load onto the laptop for conference.	All Presenters
Accuracy and Bias Study report and recommendation back to CMER in December	Laura Vaugeois/Jenelle Black
List of topics and presenters for conference from the SAGs to CMER in November	All SAGS

**Assignments:**

<b>From September Meeting:</b>	
Update the CMER membership rosters with phone numbers	Linda Heckel

**Minutes from October meeting and action items – Butts/Heckel**

Terry’s comments didn’t get incorporated. Linda will incorporate. Sally suggested we approve the minutes with Terry’s edits that we agreed are minor edits. Minutes from the October meeting were approved.

Sally then reviewed the process of how the notes get to CMER to review. Linda drafts the notes and sends them to Nancy Sturhan, Sally Butts, and Darin Cramer in that order after each has reviewed them. Those notes are the ones that are then sent to CMER for their comment and review. Sally reminded the committee that the notes should capture what happened at the meeting and not add anything after the meeting occurred.

Steve mentioned there wasn’t enough time to review the notes before the deadline this month and that action/update items should be indicated as such on the agenda. Sally said we can try and make that more clear in the future and that we are trying to get the notes out as soon as possible.

**Policy Meeting Recap– Butts**

Tomorrow is the CMER strategy meeting for policy folks in room 172 of the NRB. Hopefully everyone has updated their policy reps on CMER strategy and workplan.

**Project Management – Cramer**

There was a memo with the agenda mail out. The section on PM roles and responsibilities from Chapter 7 of the CMER P&S Manual was included in the memo. Committee members need to read it and clarify the project managers' existing roles and responsibilities and add to them if you have ideas. Nancy's questions included:

- When should the SAG get a PM involved as project is being formed?
- What are the start-up responsibilities of the PM? SAG representative?
- What are the ongoing-project responsibilities of the PM? SAG representative?
- How are payments handled with the PMs and SAG representatives?
- Who is responsible for the review process? Who prepares the review comments table when needed?
- Who prepares SAG requests?
- Who prepares 6 Qs?
- Who gives presentations to CMER, Policy?

Darin will take the PM roles and responsibilities section out of the PSM Chapter 7 and provide his edits and Nancy's list of questions and then send it to CMER for review. It will be sent out before the next meeting. Other edits that have been received will also be incorporated.

Sally mentioned that CMER's last decision on the PSM manual was to take Nancy up on her offer and have her take up the editing of the manual when her co-chair role ends. Amy also has offered to assist Nancy with this while she has some spare time before her projects start. Amy is revising Chapter 7, which contains most of the information about how to carry out CMER projects.

#### **CMER Information Management Group Update – Sturhan and Schuett-Hames**

Nancy is working with Dave and the Commission on a pilot project for information management. A kick-off meeting has occurred with interested CMER folks, and a schedule for the pilot has been set. The idea is to start with a fairly simple plan to track projects: information, data on location of study sites, etc.; track what projects have been done, and the products. The pilot will include the DFC projects and the roads sub-basin projects, and is scheduled to be complete by mid-December. The next meeting of this subgroup is 12/19. There will be a presentation at the January CMER meeting on the pilot study, along with a proposal to include all CMER projects in the database. Discussion on tracking data, archiving, maintenance, etc. will be held at CMER. If anyone wants to join the group, just let Nancy/Dave know and you can be put on the list.

#### **Project Synthesis Report for Policy – Cramer**

Darin reminded CMER that there is a meeting tomorrow to start walking policy through the CMER workplan/prioritization process. There will be meetings with policy over the next few months to get them up to speed so they can make informed decisions on CMER prioritization and process and have a common understanding of individual projects. One thing they are going to need is a program synthesis document or presentation that explains status and accomplishments of each program so that they can re-evaluate the state of our knowledge and see if CMER is headed in the right direction. We will need to explain how the projects fit within those programs. Darin will get feedback tomorrow and keep CMER posted. The SAGs may

then need to write up synthesis documents or presentations and then present to Policy. There is some concern that it will take the SAGs some time to come to agreement on what has been learned. Much of the information needed is already available in various forms such the 6 questions that are SAG-approved.

Some of the programs aren't far enough along to synthesize what has been learned, so a status report will have to suffice. With a reducing budget we need to know where the critical gaps are. Darin said we will try to have a structure or template for the presentations/synthesis, and will help the SAGs in completing these. We will try to use what we have already to keep generation of new information to a minimum, as long as Policy's questions can be answered.

### **ISPR Update - Cramer**

The post mortem peer review is complete and all reviews are in and have been sent to UPSAG. UPSAG will give a high level synthesis at the next CMER meeting on the post-mortem review.

The review group has been selected for the culvert test bed study. This should be done in a few weeks. The steam simulation review is still looking for reviewers.

### **Headwater Sediment Science Session - Sturhan**

**Pete asked that members include dates and initials on documents they produce for all CMER working documents.**

There are still questions as to what the headwater sediment study should be looking at:

- do we need to put buffer lengths in this study;
- what are the temperature effects of the treatment that you are implementing;
- do we want to wait until results from the basalt study before we design a new study;
- when are we going to start finding sites;
- is temperature the question or sediment;
- what if we get a temperature/nutrient change, what does that mean;
- what is the real priority of this study;

CMER agreed that the main questions for the soft rock study are sediment questions.

Temperature and other water quality concerns will be included, but the design needs to be around sediment issues. CMER confirmed that buffer length does not need to be the treatment. Miller questioned why effects on downstream fish was excluded from the original scoping plan as lead by Doug Martin

Some CMER members asked to see the comments received. Nancy will send them out. It was decided to convene the sub-group back together in mid-January to review a second draft incorporating the comments received and those from today. Nancy will schedule the meeting for mid-January and send it out to the sub-group.

### **SAG Requests – MacCracken/Moon**

Buffer Integrity-Shade Effectiveness requested an additional \$5,600 to cover the shade treatments. The additional money is needed to continue to have the Mission Creek DNR inmate

crews finish up the field work to implement the study treatments. The work is pretty basic, stream cleanup and tree falling. The funding is coming out of project development funds because it is the most expedited way of getting the unanticipated funds.

All approved.

### **SAG Issues**

#### ***Use of email between meetings to get decisions made.***

Sally asked what CMER wants to do about this idea. At times questions come in to the co-chairs between meetings such as the above \$5,600 request that are time sensitive. Should these wait until the next meeting or should they come to the entire CMER group at the next meeting?

After much discussion, it was decided that these requests come in so infrequently that the decision should wait until the next CMER meeting for the entire committee to make a decision.

If a SAG or individual person would like to submit a proposal to use e-mail to make such decisions between CMER meetings, they are free to do so. Message now is when planning budgets; try to account for some contingencies.

#### ***NWIFC CMER Staff Quarterly Report***

The quarterly CMER staff report from NWIFC has been submitted per their contract requirements to the AMPA and CMER co-chairs. Does CMER want to see the report? Yes. Linda will send the document out to the group with the draft notes from this meeting.

#### ***BTO Site Selection***

Chris stated that RSAG may have an issue with the new BTO add-on sites. He was concerned about the changes that may have affected the use of the sites for RSAG's purposes.

Sally said they could bring back a summary of the site changes to the January CMER meeting. There are some study sites that deviate from the original study site selection criteria that may or may not affect the outcome of the BTO study.

#### **CMER Science Conference Update - Sally**

Sally gave the group a brief update on the conference. The talk times and keynote speaker/panel are still being discussed. .

SAG presentation ideas:

UPSAG – post mortem- Julie; GWR – Curt; Accuracy and Bias – Laura; Headwater Sediment – someone; and possibly two posters

DOE – two posters – Type N Study; DNR Riparian ecosystem management study

RSAG – Bill – Type N for a poster; Mark (Hunter) – hardwood conversion (two topics Ash and Mark); Desktop analysis – Steve; Type N experimental pre-harvest data presentation– Dave

SAGE – Jenelle – Eastside Type F Riparian Characterization – MB&G

LWAG and WETSAG – Sally will need to follow-up with these two SAGs to see what they might have on the agenda.

Jenelle mentioned her follow up with Terry Curtis at DNR on the photo demo and it wouldn't be feasible for them to do it at the conference.

Dick asked if it would be feasible for DOE/Mark Hicks to do a presentation on the standards and rules that affect stream temperature, etc. Possibly a general strategy on why we are concerned about temperature and standards. Mark said it would be possible but it really doesn't fit into the "research" part of the conference. This will be done at a CMER science session sometime after January.

Sally mentioned she had received requests from folks outside of CMER to a talk: Jamie Glasgow (Wild Fish Conservancy) interested in sharing water type assessments and modeled FPARS water type to ground -truth water type; and Andrew Gray, Forest Service, interested in doing a poster with inventory results of general results of WA timberlands, including comparisons of riparian areas with uplands. Sally will contact both and ask for additional information from these two to see if CMER is interested and if they would fit into the conference.

Sally has drafted some poster guidelines and Linda will get those sent out.

### **CMER Report to Policy – Butts**

Items to be taken to the Policy meeting in December are the ISPR update, FYI on LWAG request and the science conference report/update.

### **Miscellaneous**

Dick presented a recent publication, a technical report by Everest and Reeves. He will get a box of these reports and will hand them out later. It is a very well-written history and has suggestions about monitoring of the riparian and aquatic habitats of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.

### Future Meetings

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**CMER 2007 Regular Meetings:** December 18, 2007, NWIFC

**CMER 2008 Regular Meetings:** January 22, February 26, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28, November 25<sup>th</sup> and December 16.

**2008 Science Conference:** February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008, OB2