**Amador Calaveras Consensus Group**

**Meeting Notes**

**February 18, 2015 – 9:30am – 12:00pm**

**Location:** 12200B Airport Road, Jackson, California

**Meeting Facilitator:** Bill Haigh

| **No.** | **Agenda Item** |
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| **1** | Call To Order |
| **2** | Participants Introduction: Scott Stephens, Kendal Young (KY), Rick Hopkins (RH), Laurence Crabtree, John Heissenbuttel (JoHe), Teresa McClung (TM), Jeanne Higgins, John Hofmann (JoHo), Jim Carroll (JC), Tim Tate (TT), Bill Haigh (BH), C Koos Breazeal (CKB), Amy Rocha (AR), Reuben Childress (RC), Katherine Evatt (KKE), Steve Wilensky SW), Chuck Loffland (CL), Pat McGreevy (PM); Julia Stephens (JS) |
| **3** | Modifications and/or Approval of Agenda |
| **4** | Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes |
| **5** | ~~PRESENTATION Vance Russell, National Forest Foundation: Moke Project~~ |
| **6** | **PRESENTATION** – **Scott Stephens, PhD, Fire Science UC Berkeley** –  **'Variability in forest structure across a central Sierra Nevada landscape from 1911 inventory data'**  Historical data from 1911 including identification of major vegetation groups and hydrology linkage to restored fire regimes. UCB did some re-sampling right before Rim Fire and got about 1/3 done as the fire began, with intention to return. JFS grant coming for Brandon Collins for re-measurement of this grid.  San Bruno federal archive source; 1911 report based on section corners; form 321A for the Stan, Kern, ENF, and Yosemite, FS lands only. Plots 2 x 20 chains, 10% inventory, replotted portions in 2013. 1911-- 19 trees/acre, basal 59 sq ft/ac, 2013-- 224 trees/acre. 248 sq ft/ac basal. [a person has the only file on the Eldorado but will not share].  Referenced a newly published William Baker paper in Ecosphere – historical forest structure and fire in Sierran mixed conifer forests, plots based on witness trees. 1860-1880 suspected 33-66% high severity fire; UCB says 3-6%. Their study shows that the present forest is not that varied from prehistoric; UCB counters that assertion.  Their study shows historical forests were very low density with some higher patches. Topography/landform was driving factor. Recommend where feasible Rx fire use, and mechanical treatment.  Illilouette Creek basin in Yosemite – fire use program. Hydrology impact on fire regime study. Limited fires and reburn fires stats. 3 year grant for basin. 100 years of suppression prior to 1970s. U Washington has flown LIDAR of area.  SNAMP is a UC Merced/Berkeley cooperative. Roger Bales, UC-M. Scott is on interim policy group for spotted owls and fisher. Due this spring for comment.  [sstephens@berkeley.edu](mailto:sstephens@berkeley.edu) |
| **7** | **Admin Work Group – C Koos Breazeal**   1. Funding updates - JoHe – NFF grant app update – making decision next 2-3 weeks. 2. Facilitators – Julia Stephens – March; Reuben – June. Need April, May. |
| **8** | **Planning Work Group – Kendal Young**  Planning and Monitoring met – progress on monitoring strategy. Next monitoring 3/17 at HHS; planning 3/11 location TBA. |
| **9** | **Operations Work Group - John Heissenbuttel**  Update on procurement plan (Mule Deer-type MSA, Placer County-type MSA etc.)  3 requests from Steve last month – revisit filters (clicker mtg); help development of MSA for secure fiber source; ACCG to meet with investors. Ops group will work on first 2.  Slides – met with Tad Mason, TSS Consulting (fiber supply evaluation for CHIPS. 30, 40, 50 mile radius map; big chunks NF and private; BLM is proximate, but on 3.4%. He has asked TAD to come.  JoHe and KKE have met; referenced SB1122 –PUC’s forest biomass sustainability 80% sourcing bill – this could be used as a driver. 20% “allows generally consistent with the law” – define? Reasonable checklist.  MSA help – Ops subcommittee has reviewed MSA in Weaverville area, one in Oregon and one in Placer County. Burney and Dinkey do not have yet. Placer county narrow focus primarily slash piles and reducing fire hazards – most similar to our approach. MSAs take a lot of admin support from both agency and partner. Weaverville partner is RCD with fulltime staff; Oregon MSA - environmental organization with fulltime staff; Placer is with county staff. Maybe we can facilitate MSA and CHIPS administer.  SW – Mule Deer and Turkey Fdns are another option. Northwest has an MSA that we should look at. Ask for consensus of group to use PUC document. CONSENSUS  KKE – Upper Moke Water Agency has contract staff.  JoHe – they will keep moving forward with MSA. How much time for MSA dealing with slash? They will move forward.  Jeanne – directed to an MSA in New Mexico. Andre Reichov is still stewardship coordinator and Doris Brussard. |
| **10** | **Forest Supervisors: Laurence Crabtree, Eldorado National Forest and Jeanne Higgins, Stanislaus National Forest**  **Laurence Crabtree** – will follow up on missing 1911 ENF data set. Cohesive strategy - several hundred thousand dollars committed to a collaborative and a consultant to start NEPA. Met in field with SPI, CALFIRE, Washington Office. King Fire – 67,000 acres, much high severity; proposed action to reforest a percentage; owl study balance data; draft EIS in a few weeks.  **Jeanne Higgins** – commends the collaborative effort. Came from SW as deputy regional forester and Humboldt Toiyabe as supervisor prior. Forester by training and career. |
| **11** | **Ad hoc Feedstock Committee update – K Evatt** |
| **12** | **Website discussion – all (desired attributes)**  Julia – Word Press templates; she was involved in YSS website ($1700-2500 to develop); need to buy domain and separate host. Level One Design in Sonora recommended.  **Attributes List**: Wilseyville plant info; all lands approach – maps; minutes of meetings; MOA; current past projects; monitoring plans; about us mission statement; site for each work groups; calendar; photos, maps, press releases, articles; before/after photos; member-only area; documents/power point presentations; Cornerstone project info; member organization projects; NEPA processes – comment period – post documents; maps – GIS data sets or PDFs; mapper function? Need to keep simple; or Google maps function plug in; membership list with contact info; smooth easy navigation; contact form page; incorporate key words for search; easy to use content management system CMS; field trip info – links to projects; who is the audience (us, public?); compatibility with government computer (Internet explorer compatible) (Chrome and Firefox used in private sector);  Committee: Katherine, Julia, Kendal, Cathy |
| **13** | **Wilseyville update – S Wilensky** – Putting in app for project to planning dept this week; this is a permitted use. He will convey our information to the procurement people. Ingress/egress line-of-site issues; received new letter to allow newly established Blue Mt Electric Company to sell power; connectivity study underway; meeting with Stan and BLM for long-term agreements. USDA Rural Utility status – meeting in early March; |
| **14** | **Action item review**  See highlighted entries |
| **15** | **Upcoming Events/Meetings/Conferences/announcements**  **BH** – hiring a forester in Eldorado Hills – on USA jobs (willing to hire at all levels, creative, innovative, dealing with forest plans. Level 7, 9, 11)  **Scott** – Hugh’s trip – 6/14-21 June. Invite Brandon Collins  **RH** – CFLR coordinator detailer position starting in March Christine Ford; requested additional GS7 in cultural and fuels (5,6,7 entry level positions); additional biologist position.  **TM**– 2 positions filling GS7 interpreter; GS forestry tech position  **SW** – posted 2 jobs – administrative person entry level for CHIPS; and 3 more field positions open.  **CL** – fisheries aquatic position in outreach; hiring field crew for summer. USA jobs  **KKE**—River Reflections Art Show in Oakland; returning Moke Hill March; FHC has 2015 calendar available;  **JoHo** - how can we use Scott’s information?  **KY** – comm with Roger bales and O Hare (sp) to present  **Laurence** **Crabtree** – has speakers available to present on King Fire.  **TT** – advertising 2 foresters 1 each district; prepping for regen on Rim early March – 1.2 to 1.3 million trees; salvage logging probably through fall; some live harvesting limited to fuel break creation on Sonora district;  **PM** – outreach – Mokewise talk early March; needs Bill’s maps to create an all-lands map; draft of water outreach talk for review soon; outreach to Mt Oaks school for cultural tour of Hwy 4, 3 day campout and 1 field trip monthly for 3 months  **JC** – kudos to Klamath FSC;  **AR** – EQIP appls still coming. |
|  | Adjourn – Next meeting March 18, 2015 Veterans Hall, Hwy 26, West Point |