

# ACCG Monitoring Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

9:18 AM

## Follow up on To Do List from March Meeting:

### Bales snow study

- See attached documents for more information on this project
- 10 years of funding from BLM
- Contact is Martha Conklin
- Needs from Martha – Becky and Casey will talk about this to determine any needs we can fill
  - Better vegetation maps
  - Possibly DEM
  - Hyperspectral might be useful - Worldview
  - Working with Liz Berger at RO on coordinating this work
  - FACTS sheet (see attached)
  - 2018/2019 - implementation for Hemlock will allow then to have one year baseline data
  - Infrastructure has yet to be installed, likely will happen this summer
- Kevin O'Hara - UC Berkeley - forest health assessments before or after - UC Davis crews maybe could help with this but maybe also Kevin has a grad student who could run this work?

### BMP monitoring

- Are we tracking this and can we add to the database
- Casey will follow up more on this

### Social Economic Monitoring

- Bring together interested folks to discuss the social economic monitoring (did this meeting happen?)
- Discuss the likelihood of Chico State or other entities
- Other entities were pursued through contracting which made it more difficult
- Two proposals - too expensive and not quite meeting the needs of the groups
- Then Chico State gave a presentation through the RO work and was completely different but doesn't mean that we can't guide them (Mark Metcalf, Ryan Miller)
- Wilseyville study - continue this work within other areas in Cornerstone
- Need to have methodology in place so that it is easily repeatable by ACCG in the future
- Need something in writing that we can propose to social/economic folks
- The RFPs were not as concrete as they should have been
  - Requests from entity - narrow down methodology based on our questions and refine budget
- Robin is going to work with Ryan and Mark to develop a proposal from Chico State that will meet the needs of the monitoring strategy and then we will pitch this to the interested parties in the ACCG – it might not be perfect but we need to solidify this – I think we should shoot for end of April

### Future Meeting Topic: Climate Engine

- Use the tool to identify meadows in the Cornerstone area

Follow-up with Jay to get official answer on availability of data – expected publication date (Gwen to follow-up)

### **Volunteers Discussion**

- No Chips work – they are hired for typically very focused fuels reduction projects and likely not a great fit for monitoring
- Conifer encroachment work - many groups can use this
- Indian Valley - IBP - have subset in yearly monitoring for the Audubon Society - volunteers for bird work
  - Sensitive species might need to be done by a more skilled group
  - Outreach to core breeders
  - Veg - climate engine look at this with regards
- American River Scorecard
  - Moke watershed looked at larger meadows
  - Volunteer opportunities - evaluate meadows
  - Might need more training and would be a good tool for volunteer opportunities
  - Need to really prioritize where we want our volunteer efforts
    - Indian Valley might be a priority
  - What pre-project data needs to be collected? Foster, Matley, Hemlock, Indian Valley
  - Keep it simple and achievable
  - Protocol, Training process, Identification of Volunteers, Organizing
  - Reach out to volunteers to determine where they would want to work
  - Discuss with Foothill Conservancy
    - Funding might be an issue but might be a way to pursue avenues in the future for volunteer
  - Maybe think about funding time for CSERC or Foothill Conservancy - as a participant monitoring entity
  - Check into agreements for CSERC
- Priority list - Foster, Matley, Indian Valley, Deer Valley, Thompson Meadow, Big Meadows (Hemlock - less so)
  - Identified that these projects are priority
  - Talk to Chuck about these projects to determine status especially Indian Valley so that we know which ones need to be addressed this field season
  - Develop list of potential meadows that can be restored using climate engine for future projects
- Review and develop the protocols - American River Scorecard, conifer monitoring
- Identify volunteer pool and begin to propose dates on this discussion

### **Filling in the Gaps in Monitoring Database**

- WakaLuu Hep You
  - Oak restoration, vegetation fencing
  - Good opportunity for volunteers
- Contractor Survey
  - Need to check on this status - Katherine (Mary)
  - Have Jill work with the contractors on this survey
- Entered data from Matt on invasive species and rare plants
- Updated datasheet with latest projects that are ongoing

- Largest gap is maybe aquatic monitoring – maybe revisit proposal submitted for Power fire from PSW

#### Collaboration Survey:

- ACCG concurrence was the highest ranked
- Focus on the specific project
- Make sure that questions follow the same order on the survey
- Get rid of the N/A change to what we are actually asking - no concerns
- Get rid of unsure
- How can we identify where people are located? Add question on survey for this.
- Add comment line under each question so that people can provide more information if necessary.
- We need to develop an FS survey – maybe?
  - Look at survey from perspective of FS employees and other agencies to determine whether we need a separate survey
  - Add a section on did you write a letter of support or opposition - did you work outside of the ACCG and write a personally letter - did you participate in the objection process
  - Make edits to the survey
  - Need to make this very clear that only fill out survey if you participated on the project

#### Things to do:

##### All

- Review collaboration paper and online survey to makes sure we are on the right track
- Send the survey link to Jill with the Foster Firs overview document prior to the April meeting
- Look at American River scorecard to determine feasibility for volunteer efforts

##### Casey

- BMP monitoring gap in database and input into data format that we can track
- Send info on snow study to group **Done**

##### Gwen

- Look at breeding bird surveys/monitoring that might be covered in the Cornerstone project area (might check with Point Blue on this)
- Identify additional gaps in database, send to – Kent Lambert (east bay mud), UMRA, CalFire
  - Refine the water quality data
- Follow-up with Jay to get official answer on availability of data – expected publication date (Gwen to follow-up)

##### Dennis

- Identify additional gaps in database, send to – Lynn, SNP
- ESRI – some of clients may be connected, Jordan Hank (Dennis will contact)
- Nature Conservancy – Ed Smith, Dennis to contact - volunteers

##### Shana

- Check in with Quinn on rare plants
- Climate engine check on Indian Valley
- Check on the June 14th meeting to see if a better time works- maybe a doodle poll
- Share American River Scorecard with all

### **Becky**

- Contact Kevin O'Hara on vegetation work
- Check on survey monkey to merge into one survey to make it easy or use different format
- Check with Casey and Martha on whether we need more data for the snow study
- Redo online survey and update paper survey to reflect changes that group decided on collaboration survey
- Provide Robin with questions for social/economic monitoring

### **Robin**

- Check on agreement with foothill conservancy to determine possibilities of funding for volunteer opportunities
- Work with Ryan to develop proposal based on monitoring group questions (located in final version of the strategy) and then provide this information to monitoring and interested parties in planning group
- Schedule time at full meeting to discuss social/economic monitoring – is this something we want to do?
- Check with having NFWF on possibly June/July meeting at full group
- Maybe with Chuck and Calaveras RD - need to develop a template for project collaboration activities for archive

### **Julia**

- Check on volunteer list at CSERC to see if folks would be willing to work on ENF or do we also need to bring in Foothill Conservancy to expand or volunteer pool
- Would CSERC enter into an agreement with CSERC to offset cost for volunteer efforts or should we keep commitment to a minimum

### **Future Agenda Items:**

- Look more closer at American River scorecard and conifer mortality protocol
- Contractor Survey – where is this and how can we move it forward
- Continued discussion of collaboration survey – review Foster Firs
  - How we tie to original monitoring questions
- Process for identifying monitoring needs on a project by project basis
  - Which projects should we monitoring
    - Need to evaluate whether the projects any questions
- Funding for monitoring needs in the future - grant funding
- Implementation Monitoring
- File Sharing - confer with Jill etc. on how we set up a shared site
  - Having UMRA run this
  - Need to have a workplan for how we move forward with reporting, etc.
- Future Meeting Topic: Climate Engine
  - Use the tool to identify meadows in the Cornerstone area for restoration
  - Discussion on protocols for volunteer work and begin to discuss dates for the work
  - Discussion on NFWF funding – what will be funded (implementation, monitoring) and what is the process for selecting projects

### **Meeting Dates**

May 3<sup>d</sup>

June 14<sup>th</sup> (tentative – not many folks have this day available)