

## Amador Calaveras Consensus Group Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2017 -- 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Jackson, 12200 Airport Rd # B, Jackson, CA 95642

Meeting Facilitator: Reuben Childress ••• Minutes: Jill Micheau

Attendees: Jill Micheau; Gwen Starrett; Jim Burk; Chuck Lofflard; Alissa Fogg; Zack Steel; Becky Estes; Jay Francis; Casey Jardine; Bill Haigh; Jennifer DeWoody; Tim Tate; Michael Pickard; Reuben Childress; Steve Ogburn; Robin Wall; Eric Kleinfelter; Jan Bray; Ron Harugs; Megan Fiske  
Julia Stephens

Item Number	Agenda Item	Owner(s)	Est. Time
1	Call to order	Reuben Childress	9:30 AM
2	Participants introductions – see attached attendee list	All	9:30 AM
3	Modification and/or approval of agenda – Wilensky sick today, so delete his item 7	All	9:35 AM
4	Approval of January and February minutes – January approved; Feb to be approved next month	All	9:40 AM
5	Review of February action items	Jill	9:45 AM
6	<b>Presentation: “Bats in a fire-prone landscape: Acoustic monitoring in the Power Fire burn area 2014-2016”</b> Presenter: Zack Steel, UC Davis – <b>presentation will be posted to ACCG website.</b>	Robin Wall	9:50 AM
7	Update on Wilseyville biomass plant – how did discussions with potential partners go? <a href="#">Steve did not attend</a>	Steve Wilensky	10:35 AM
8	Tree mortality updates: Amador (Jan Bray) <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting 3/14/17; CDA grant discussed; making changes; chipping swapped out for small burn piles. Impacts right of entry with landowners. PG&E cleared several blocks, 1700 tons, total 7K tons processed through yard; slowed because of wet weather and road impact. Chips are being taken to Lincoln. Grinder seems to be brought in periodically as logs pile up. <input type="checkbox"/> Amador applied for 5 SRA grants; 2 granted; one for a mobile home park w/o underground utilities and no public roads; other is along Buckhorn Ridge. <input type="checkbox"/> Available equipment: 2 chippers in Pine Grove Camp and skid skiff with attachments/multi function. <input type="checkbox"/> Grants: opportunities with RCD; Cal Fire, PG&E Forest Resiliency, FireSafe, SRA all coming up. Will come back to ACCG about PG&E grants, they want to target Butte Fire areas.	Jan Bray Tim Tate	10:45 AM

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	<p>\$100K for 5 years. Includes education and community capacity aspects. ACCG will draft the application. CEMA grant.</p> <p><b>Calaveras (Tim Tate)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two curtain burners in use at Vallecito Camp. Early county where CalFire curtain burners used. Will eventually be moved to Red Hill land fill; there is a site there for them. That will be the only active disposal site for material in Calaveras County. Still looking at other sites. Some road issues there now;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> CC has lagged behind other counties in getting a full-time tree mortality coordinator because the current person is here on an interim basis. Only has ~11 weeks left. Will advertise his position ASAP.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cal Waste gathering up needles and slash. Logs are an issue that is being ignored. Curtain burners should be used for limb slash from debris sites. Logs ground for biomass and other. CC is located in the middle of biomass sites.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Chinese Camp and Lincoln small mill are actively seeking logs. Also Cedar Mill? Alpine? Kevin Conway now on TM task force familiar with our area.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> GIS update: CC contracted last May for cannabis verification images to verify who applied for cultivation permits, had drainage work done, etc. Flew again in fall; again this month; if other public entities want to license imagery, can do for \$8K and distribute at will, no limits. There was some discussion about who might pay the \$8K per version to license it. Maybe CalFire? Share for a lower cost? CC can share the map, but not the raw data. Not sure what can be shared. Geo North is the company. Very fine resolution. Hyperspectral, so can get forest health data, and paired with Lidar. 2009 flight to test volume and height of trees. Cal Am team already did some work on this thru FEMA grant.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> CC will adopt FEMA approved plan and put into general plan to be eligible for reduction of share in CBAA money. Requires further legislative approval to take to Governor Brown... seems farfetched. Not much hope of getting Congress/FEMA to recognize this (tree mortality?) as a slow moving disaster.</li> </ul>		
9	<p><b>Admin Work Group update (Michael Pickard):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>5-Year Strategic Plan:</b> What will be the structure of ACCG once our funding runs out? Need discussion on how the group should function. Will have another meeting to discuss possible outcomes, results will be brought to whole group for discussion and input. Within a year have a draft strategic plan.</li> </ul>	Michael Pickard	10:55 AM

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	<p>Regular meetings. How interact with Forest Service? Standing space on agenda to report...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Grants:</b> What should ACCG pursue? Do we have a plan for this already? Can't take grant money now because ACCG is not a 501c3. Is this an issue that should be addressed?</p>		
10	<p><b>Planning Work Group update:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Panther Project comment letter (update) Ruben Childress:</b> A draft letter was provided at the meeting (but just posted/distributed yesterday) and concurrence was requested. The letter proposes a modification to alternative ONE.</p> <p>o There was push back on the proposed changes, so following the ACCG meeting on Wednesday (3/15), a sub-group met to develop a revised letter to the USFS Amador RD on the Panther Project.</p> <p>o To that end, Jan Bray sent a letter in WORD's Track Changes to Reuben Childress and Michael Pickard on Thursday morning which incorporated changes to reflect that, while ACCG members differ on treatment methods and locations, they agree that a letter from ACCG delineating such concerns should be sent.</p> <p>o Provide update/conclusion at April meeting.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Project Planning (RobinWall):</b> next planning meeting (Wednesday, 3/22 at Amador Ranger District Offices) will focus on the Panther Project and the Power Fire EIS conversation continued. Will also have 2-year plan for projects.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Suggestions for field trips:</b> infrastructure field trip like logging, curtain burners, etc.</p>	Casey Jardine Reuben ChildressCass	11:05 AM
11	<b>Operations Work Group update</b>	<i>No report this month</i>	
12	<p><b>Agency/organization updates</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Michael Pickard:</b> March summit on watershed improvement program very successful. Can be seen on YouTube: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPsDtmH1K5_xx3XtAep6HKMz0oCL2QDIZ">[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPsDtmH1K5_xx3XtAep6HKMz0oCL2QDIZ]</a> Entire event was taped. VP from AQUA told group that active forest management does not improve watershed. Disconcerting. Will be hard to get money on that front.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Sierra Pacific, Martel: Jay Francis</b> – drying out enough for some controlled burns to start.</p>		11:20 AM

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ <b>Calaveras County Forest Service, Casey Jardine</b> -- updating business plan for CLFR; starting to look at Arnold interface farm bill hazard trees; assessing storm damage and roads; will be applying for federal highway loans.</li> <li>❑ <b>Forest Service, Robin Wall</b> -- Lots of damage in Panther area. SPI working Power Fire areas. Will have more info at next meeting. Researchers need to check in about access because so many roads are damaged/closed. SPI working with PG&amp;E on bypass for an area. More info at next meeting. Burning in China Creek area; visit report will be put on web.</li> <li>❑ <b>Crestview Mitchel Mine project, Bill Haigh</b> -- South Mokulumne project: archeological survey has begun; will work on next few months. New Secretary of the Interior started in DC has increased optimism in the Department.</li> <li>❑ <b>Bird information, WHO???</b> -- 3 years of data collected, will answer questions about herbicide application, etc.</li> <li>❑ <b>Monitoring group, WHO???</b> -- working with Point Blue, gaps in monitoring, opportunities to do monitoring for us; region 5 ecology group looking at treated areas prior to beetle outbreak, compare to untreated area ad. Locations on BLD, Cala, Ama, Placerville, BEID, will come back to group with results. <b>Can she be a speaker at one of our meetings?</b></li> <li>❑ <b>SPI, Tim Tate</b> -- Closure on Cottonwood in Stanislaus will impact operations; met with forest engineer; 30 ergo sites can apply for help from federal highways. EID had 14, numbers diminished as you move north. Serious road and access issues in both forests (El Dorado and Stanislaus). This is a \$7M dollar problem; more will surface as snow melts.</li> <li>❑ <b>Jan Bray, TM</b> -- CalAm working on grants.</li> <li>❑ <b>Biomass energy, Jim Burk</b> -- Opportunity: high hazard fuel in demand . Window of opportunity for most projects is potentially short if contractual agreements are not met. Pressure on both supply and demand sides.</li> <li>❑ <b>Alpine BEB, Ron Harufs</b> -- ABC group, grants standards approved June, deadlines September 1st, \$8M; Mono County started biomass plant. Ribbon cutting ceremony will be 4/4, or maybe another date. Chips: now hire 2% of native population in this county. 685K burn piles on the ground now.</li> <li>❑ <b>Citizens Climate Lobby, Gwen Starrett</b> -- Meeting in Sonora, Saturday March 18, 3-6PM. Contact Gwen if interested.</li> <li>❑ <b>USFS, Jennifer DeWoody</b> -- EIS for Power Fire to go public in April. Ready to be drafted to go out. Will be addressed at next week's planning update (3/22).</li> </ul>		
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13	<b>Action item review (current meeting)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Small team to meet immediately after this meeting to work out issues on Panther Project letter (see above)	Jill Micheau	11:30 AM
14	<b>Collaboration Survey</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Gwen Starrett provided an overview of the survey – part of monitoring project. <input type="checkbox"/> Only one on-line survey was completed, but some members of the group indicated that they had indeed completed the survey online – Gwen needs to check out what happened to them. <input type="checkbox"/> The group expressed a strong preference for on-line versus paper-based surveys. <input type="checkbox"/> Three surveys were completed during the meeting and submitted.	Gwen Starrett	11:35 AM
15	Future meeting topics and/or speaker suggestions – not addressed at this meeting, as we ran out of time.	Reuben Childress	11:50 AM
16	Adjourn <input type="checkbox"/> Next meeting April 19, 2017, CA-26 & Pine St, West Point, CA 95255 <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE THAT LOCATION MAY CHANGE DUE TO HWY 26 ROAD CLOSURE. LOCATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED WHEN AGENDA IS SENT OUT.	Reuben Childress	12:00 PM

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### 2017 Meeting Schedule:

Date	Location	Facilitator
March 15	Jackson	Reuben Childress
April 19	West Point*	Mike Pickard
May 17	Jackson	Julia Stephens
June 21	West Point	
July 19	Jackson	
August 16	West Point	
September 20	Jackson	
October 18	West Point	
November 15	Jackson	
December 20	West Point	

*\*May change location if road is still impassable.*