

# Amador Calaveras Consensus Group

Meeting Minutes  
June 15, 2016 9:30am – 12:00pm

Location: 12200 Airport Rd, Jackson, CA

Meeting Facilitator: Katherine Evatt Minutes Taken By: Kimberly Grissom

## Agenda Items

1. Call to Order
2. Participant Introductions  
David Griffith, Annie Dean, Terry Woodrow, Susan McMorris, Robin Wall, Katherine Evatt, Richard Yarnell, Megan Fiske, Mary Sketch, Kimberly Grissom, Donna Vial, Gordon Long, Reuben Childress, Teresa McClung, Scott Tangenberg, Rick Hopson, John Hofmann, Amy Rocha, Monte Kawahara, Sue Holper, Gwen Starrett, Eric Kleinfelter, Gerald Schwartz, Tim Tate, John Heissenbuttel, Michael Pickard, Steve Wilensky, Pat McGreevy, Chris Fettig.
3. Approval and/or Modification of Agenda
  - Remove Operations Work Group, item 13, and reschedule item 10, ACCG's Role in the Master Stewardship Agreement, to July.
  - Agenda approved as modified
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
  - Approved.
5. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items (see agenda)
6. Drought, Insects, and Carbon Sequestration in Sierra Forests – Dr. Chris Fettig, USFS
  - Dr. Fettig provided abundant information on the Western Pine Beetle, which is the one affecting the local forests here, as well as helpful background on relationships between climate change, drought, fire, and beetle populations. One change is an increased number of beetle reproduction cycles in one season, due to increased temperatures.
  - He predicts a high percentage of Central Sierra Ponderosa Pine will be killed within 2 years, based on patterns from the Southern Sierra.
7. BLM Community Forest Update – Steve Wilensky
  - Discussion of ACCG's potential role in the organizational structure of the Community Forest resulted in a request for information on structures used in the Trinity group,
  - The topic will be addressed again in July, with Monte Kawahara of BLM participating.
8. BLM Butte Fire Salvage Timber Harvest – Monte Kawahara
  - Mr. Kawahra explained some of the processes and challenges involved with this timber harvest plan, and indicated that the timber sale may be ready to advertise in August.
  - A field trip group also went to the Mckay's project, and to a fuel break built for the Butte Fire. A challenge is how to maintain that fuel break, which is important to protecting the town of Avery.
9. Tree Mortality Update – Mary Sketch
  - The necessary steps are being taken to apply for California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) emergency funding, including a declaration of emergency by interested counties, and adopting a tree removal plan. Ten counties are not involved.
  - Pat McGreevy has field surveyed 100 miles of road for hazard trees to help provide an estimate of funds needed to include in the grant application. In Amador it is about 11 trees per mile. An early estimate is \$1,000 per tree to fall them.

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- There is uncertainty regarding how the felled trees will be removed. The funds focus on trees that are a hazard to public infrastructure. There is still no funding available for private land owners that have hazard trees around their homes or roads.
10. Admin Work Group
    - The MOA revision and update is making progress, and a draft may be ready to go out for review in advance of the next meeting. Some changes include: creating an appendix to simplify the main document; focus on the Mokelumne watershed and adjacent areas to accomplish the inclusion of Alpine County participants; define consensus, participant, and quorum; make Monitoring its own work group; roll the Finance work group into Admin; and create a reference card for our rotating volunteer facilitators that outlines our consensus process.
    - The request for a regional summary of recommendations from the April NFF conference in Denver will be followed by ACCG participants who attend SCALE meeting.
    - The recommendation for SI to provide support and an example from Burney Hat Creek, for an ACCG letter regarding Buenda Vista and local biomass plants will be followed up by Steve Wilensky and Mary Sketch.
  11. Planning Work Group
    - The Black Springs project letter is tabled pending consultation between Reuben Childress and Teresa McClung. The draft will be circulated via email when it is available.
  12. NFF Workshop Suggestions (see addendum)
  13. Agency/Organization Updates
  14. Action Item Review (see addendum)
  15. Future Meeting Topics Review.
  16. Adjourn 12:00 pm.
    - Next meeting July 20, 2016. Veterans Hall, Hwy 26 and Pine Street, West Point, CA.

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## Action Items June:

1. Dr. Fetting's slides will be posted on the ACCG website.
2. Organizational structures of other Community Forest groups will be distributed by Steve Wilensky.
3. An ACCG letter of support for Buena Vista and local biomass plants will be drafted by Steve Wilensky and Mary Sketch, with support from Sierra Institute's similar letter from Burney Hat Creek.
4. BLM Community Forest update by Monte Kawahara will be added to the July agenda.
5. The ACCG's role in the Master Stewardship Agreement discussion will be moved to the July agenda.
6. A draft letter of support for the Black Springs Campground project will be circulated via email when it is available.
7. Bill Haigh from BLM will share "lessons learned" from Butte Fire erosion control efforts, at a future meeting.
8. The Admin WG will provide an update on the MOA revision.
9. Katherine Evatt will renew efforts to coordinate with USFS PIO regarding ACCG.
10. Admin team (Katherine Evatt) and Tim Tate – Put on ACCG website information for homeowners re: how to remove beetle-killed trees.
11. Katherine Evatt to figure out how to do a grassroots event with SMUD as opposed to op-ed, regarding Biomass plants.
12. Katherine Evatt will discuss with a resource management lobbyist issues regarding funding forest work on private land.
13. Identify potential beaver reintroduction meadows – G. Long