**Location:   12200 Airport Road, Sutter Creek  
Meeting Facilitator: Robin Wall  Minutes: Jill Micheau**

***Attendees:*** *Terry Woodrow; Chuck Loffland; Liz Gregg; Heidi Beswick; Gwen Starrett; Trisha Frazier; Marc Young; Robin Wall; Bill Haigh; Elizabeth Meyer-Shields; Becky Estes; Alissa Fogg; John Heissenbuttel; Hugh Safford; Susan McMorris; Sue Holper; Reuben Childress; Steve Brink; Tim Tate; Gerald Schwartz; Kathy Gallino; Katherine Evatt; Kyle Rodgers; Hilary Sanders; Jonathan Kusel; Marg Donnely; Bob Polakov; Steve Wilensky; Jill Micheau.*

| **Item #** | **Agenda Item** | **Owner(s)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Call to order | Wall |
| 2 | Participants introductions + SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT (Congratulations to Bill Haigh on his retirement) | All |
| 3 | Modification and/or approval of agenda and July minutes | All |
| 4 | Quick review of July tasks | All |
| **Presentations and Business** | | | |
| 5 | Presentation by **Dr. Hugh Safford**, on Natural range of variation for yellow pine and mixed conifer forest in the Sierra Nevada: a summary of pre-settlement composition, structure and function and comparisons to today.  Dr. Safford is the senior vegetation ecologist for the USDA-Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region. Click [here](http://acconsensus.org/event/accg-general-meeting-august-2018/?instance_id=1702) to see supporting materials. | Safford |
| **Requests for Consensus** | | | |
| 6 | * Review, discussion, possible action re CFLR Coalition letter to Congressional Committees on Agriculture; requests extension and increased funding for CFLRP in the final Farm Bill. Possible action? This is a national coalition like ACCG. They lobby in DC. Sent letter sent to us… do we want to sign on? Request is to extend authorization of CFLR funding thru 2023. Authorizes appropriations committee to fund annually. Group agreed to add ACCG’s support to this letter. | Evatt or John H. |
| **Discussions** | | | |
| 7 | Sierra Institute’s $3M California Climate Investments Forest Health award and the work it will support.  Critical area in state; South Lassen Water Group got CCI grant sort of; received only $3M because not all areas were NEPA ready; responded with a subset of projects; 7k federal acres for NEPA-CEQA; will do with partners; meadow restoration; timber harvest plans, fuels reduction; mix of federal and private lands; need to complete, not just NEPA-CEQA – need to do landscape scale project; might try landscape scale with another grant.  **Question**: how will you do larger level projects, not piecemeal? **Answer**: 2003-4 started a group at request of Board of Supervisors in Plumas County; now they want to move beyond lake Almanor area; just protecting the lake is no longer enough; did strategic planning; brought in bigger players; landscape players said to get it going; SI took some role, got PG&E grant to help advance their work; when went big, lots of groups flocked to them. PG&E Foundation Corporation made several grants to groups. (ACCG should look at this for a source of money). **Question**: Who’s doing their NEPA-CEQA?  **Answer**: Working with professionals with 10+ months of work; will advertise, hire locals. National Forests and Lassen forest… offering 10 months of work; May ask for SNC money for team? Important to work with agencies. | Jonathan Kusel |
| **Updates** | | | |
| 8 | **Admin Work Group updates:**   * Update on professional facilitation – in contacting -- tbd * Strategic Plan – next steps – Will update next month | Wall  Micheau |
| 9 | **Planning Work Group updates:**   * Report on how the “mock tree marking” field trip for Arnold-Avery FB  Many Forest Service attended; didn’t manifest out in the field. Where we agree: need to treat within the PAC; decision was to leave boundary as is; may change on future projects as needed. Need to address ladder fuels; more narrative about clearing around oaks. FS controversy was only about intermediate size class trees; FS conceded, move to 16”-24 within the PAC in immediate defense zone. * 2 Scottiago projects:Hazard tree abatement decision memo has gone out. Goal is sell sale this fall, may remove hazard trees this winter ..Camera crew going up to Hiway 88 Fuels Project with Marc (note that article and video have been posted to ACCG web); spent yesterday with Ben Solvesky looking at spotted owl clumps, gaps, etc. that will be the focus of next week’s Planning Meeting (8/22 – see ACCG web calendar). * Last planning meeting in Amador:discussion re collaboration; draft document; felt like collaborative effort. | Wall Aragon |
| 10 | **Monitoring Work Group update**   * Socioeconomic monitoring WG status: meeting today 1:30 – 3:30, 810 Court Street, Jackson;  Quick report on yesterday’s meeting: Meeting today; community capacity assessment work with Department of Water Resources; how we group census block groups; what capacity they have, human, finance, cultural, infrastructure, social. * Meadow Monitoring Volunteer Opportunity: Upper Onion Valley Meadow, September 10-13 work dates; campsite; vegetation transect monitoring and conifer removal; 2 days of plucking the meadow. Need drivers; Gwen will send out flyer ASAP. Greater valley cons group will bring 3 members. Note: information has been posted to the ACCG website here: <http://acconsensus.org/2018/08/20/meadow-restoration-work-days-september-10-13th/> * Annual Report: Will ask all speakers from the November 2017 Monitoring Symposium to update their resources; will all go in our annual report. Next monitoring meeting will be moved; update soon. Need more people in monitoring group. * Gwen will provide ecological monitoring matrix next month. | Wall  Starrett  Estes |
| 11 | **Agency/organization updates (round table)**   * **Heissenbuttel, CalAm:** Amador FSC got fire reduction grant through CCI >$1M; will construct fuel break from 99 to Surrey Junction subdivision. 4 years to complete. BLM, Cal AM, FSC, Cal Fire and State Parks all involved. * **Frazier, Mother Lode Job Training:** [MLJT has received a grant to assist organizations in natural resources fields, such as forestry, logging, water, mining, with training new employees, either by MLJT employing these individuals to work for the host organization on a part-time basis for a determined training period, or by supplementing the wages of full-time employees of the natural resources organization, again for a determined training period.  The intent of the grant is to assist natural resources organizations, and to create career pathways in these fields.  Note that all info has been posted to the ACCG web here:](http://acconsensus.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/MLJT-flyer.jpg)<http://acconsensus.org/2018/08/20/3916/> * **Kathryn Gallino, CC Economic Development:** Working on an MSA with Calaveras County and USFS; working with different group; wants to set a time to meet. * **Tim Tate, SPI:**  Carr fire; 30K acres, biggest hit ever; tightened up on access policy – public to stay out; extraordinary risk this year; today is 1st day of “the witching hour” – August 15 through Septemer 15th has traditionally been worst time for fires. * **Terry Woodrow, Cal FSC, Alpine BOS:** Calaveras Fire Safe Council received $3.1M in grants for 5 projects; Tree mortality cost share has applications for 457 trees, gave back $100K; can do 100 more trees; PG&E grant for 61 senior assistance applications. * **Haigh, BLM:** Lillipgap; state-wide hazard management. Sandy Gulch work to begin late winter. * **Wilensky, CHIPS:** CHIPS living with fire; came right up to town; crews in Tuolumne Meadows got smoked out; put up in Amador Ranger District; now back. Decommissioning social trails in sacred grounds; Steve told story about Bill Haigh’s first dealings with ACCG. $2500 and CHIPS did the fuel break. * **Aragon, Stanislaus RD:** UMWRA pre app for grant touring SNC on Tuesday; Stanislaus Arnold-Avery tour on Monday afternoon (SNC); * Update on Donnel fire: Cablayan is incident commander; smoke is awful; reached Spicer Reservoir; public usage limited; Calaveras and Alpine counties getting hit; fires are being minimally managed. * **Donnelly, CalRCD:** Received CALFIRE-CCI grant for Mill Woods fuel break; full proposals invited for SNC grants. | All |
| 12 | **Wrap up**   * Lunch after the meeting at the **Highway House,** 627 CA-49, Jackson – continue conversations and networking there! * Next meeting September 19, 2018. Speaker will be TBD!!! **Location:** Veterans Memorial Hall, West Point, CA | Wall |
| **Meeting Adjourns at Noon** | | | |

Materials available on ACCG website:

* July minutes for review (to be approved at meeting); Agenda for today’s meeting; Dr. Safford’s CV, plus copies of 2 recent papers; Letter to House and Senate committees on Ag;

# Task List from August Meeting (review in September):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Owner** | **Task** | **Status** |
| Jill Micheau | * Add ACCG to CFLR support letter (discussed in August meeting) | Done; email form completed and submitted that will add ACCG to the list of supporters |
| Hopson/Pickard | Discuss Foster Meadow funding options; SNC funds or ACCG? | xxx |
| Micheau/Pickard | Would SNC do CEQA on Foster Meadow project? Put on next agenda | xxx |
| Unassigned | Produce a grant cycle chart for the group | xxx |
| Evatt | Edit Buckley’s document re Hemlock and the email string about Arnold-Avery treatments; distribute for discussion at August meeting; pass to new facilitator. | Deferred to September meeting |
| Unassigned | Compile list of collaboration and ZOA best practices; | xxx |
| Jill/Robin | Get professional facilitation going; many issues arose this meeting; note that Jill may not be here September meeting AND that we have no scheduled speaker that month… good time to start with facilitator? | Update is on agenda |
| Jill Micheau | Strategic Plan Update | September agenda |

# 2018 Meeting Schedule:

| **Meeting Date and Location** | **Presentor** | **Topic** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **September 19**West PointFacilitator: **TBD** | TBD | ???? |
| **October 17**Sutter CreekFacilitator: **Deb Phillips and Julia Stephens** | Kevin Roberts Biologists, SPI | Spotted owl research |
| **November 21**West PointFacilitator: **Gordon Long** | **Traci Allen** Eldorado NF Biologist  UNCONFIRMED | TBD |
| NO MEETINGS IN DECEMBER!! | | |

*If you have recommendations for speakers, please email contact info to* [*JillMicheau@gmail.com*](mailto:JillMicheau@gmail.com)