

Amador Calaveras Consensus Group

Minutes

Wednesday November 14, 2018 -- 9:30 AM-12:00 PM

Location: 12200 Airport Road, Sutter Creek, CA

Meeting Facilitator: Michael Pickard ♦♦♦ Minutes: Jill Micheau

Item #	Agenda Item
1	Call to order: 9:32 AM start.
2	Participants introductions
3	Modification and/or approval of agenda and October minutes: approved pending one change proposed by K. Evatt (done and posted to ACCG website)
Presentations, Discussions, and Business	
5	Strategic Plan: Goal 3 discussion (continuation from October meeting) Notes from conversation were taken on flip charts. <i>Transcribed notes are a separate attachment.</i>
4	Arnold-Avery project: Discussed the process for AA and the plan to use CFLR funds w/o ACCG consensus. The Calaveras RD plans to use CFLR funds for fuel reduction portion of Arnold-Avery but never expressly brought that project to the ACCG for concurrence – which has been done for all other CFLR-funded projects since the funds were first awarded. Members expressed concern that the district did not seek ACCG agreement and is “piecemealing” the project by separating it into CFLR-funded fuels work and timber harvest under the Farm Bill CE authority. Issues raised included who has authority for spending CFLR funds, whether FS CFLR-funded FS staff are working on nonCFLR projects, and whether the lack of agreement would stop the fuel reduction portion of the project. Suggestions were made for modifying the timber portion of the project through the timber contracts process. The concerned members made clear that they are not opposed to treating the lands in the project, but their concerns about some of the timber operations were not addressed and even the project was approved while they were trying to resolve their concerns. The conversation about this issue was contentious and remains unresolved. It was suggested that the issue would be referred to the new facilitator for mediation and to develop a process and communication practices to avoid these issues in the future. One member voiced strong objection to a related letter sent by others to the forest supervisor. <i>Action item: Ray Cablayan will check with Forest Supervisor Jason Kuiken to see if he is willing to meet with concerned ACCG members to discuss this project, the process, funding, and related issues.</i>
5	Professional Facilitation: Our new facilitator; next steps; what to expect The new facilitator, Tania Carlone, could not attend the meeting, but provided a brief powerpoint presentation, which is linked at the bottom of this document. She will be conducting interviews over the next several weeks and will provide results at the January meeting.
Updates	
6	Admin Work Group updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting locations for 2019 – Jill asked the group if they would consider an alternate location in Calaveras County, but that was rejected. Meeting facilities for 2019 will be split between Sutter Creek and West Point. <i>Schedule will be available in time for the January meeting.</i>
7	Planning Work Group updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Eldorado NF invited regional office reps to identify hazard trees along roads and explain their methodologies and criteria; awesome and educational experience; very good enlightening for all. Next planning meeting in Hathaway Pines; <i>Joe will send out agenda</i>, which is already full. November 28th 9AM; facilitator will be there. No field trip. All meeting.
8	Monitoring Work Group update

Amador Calaveras Consensus Group

Minutes

Wednesday November 14, 2018 -- 9:30 AM-12:00 PM

Item #	Agenda Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gwen not here. Robin: last Wednesday discussed part of scenario planning response; discussed looking at what has been done, what still needs to be done; monitoring strategy. <i>Will provide update on October and November projects at January meeting.</i> Sierra Institute is conducting interviews in the Jackson/Mountain Ranch area on 11/15 (tomorrow); <i>Jill sent out contact info to all in attendance who may want to be interviewed (done 11/14)</i>
11	<p>Agency/organization updates (round table)</p> <p>Robin Wall, USFS Eldorado: working on annual report; if you have items/stories you'd like to have included, please send to Robin. New facilitator, Tania Carlone, will be at next planning meeting and act as facilitator/mediator if needed.</p> <p>Rich Farrington, UMWRA: provided statistics on death and destruction of the Camp Fire; MAC Integrated Regional Water Management Plan is being updated; state requirement; makes us eligible for Prop 1 funds for water, forest health, watershed improvement, meadow restoration; and infrastructure projects. Separate consultant for Dept. Water Resources, Sierra Institute, is outreaching to disadvantaged communities to identify water and wastewater needs; Held workshop on August 14th; many ACCG members attended; interested in a grant from NFWF (National Fish & Wildlife Foundation) for Power Fire Road Erosion Control and Culvert Reconstruction implementation project; USFS paper is posted on ACCG web. Would like letter of support at January meeting. <i>Jill to put on January agenda.</i></p> <p>David Griffith ABC: Fuels Management Task Force, statewide, 3 groups, 4 regional; met 2 weeks ago; no one from this group or from our counties in that group. Will be setting policy in CA on fuels management. Contact CALFIRE to get involved. LINK TO WEBSITE: https://fmtf.fire.ca.gov/; ACCG should be participating, can do so by Internet. Next meeting of the Sierra and Eastside Group is Dec. 7th at 9:00 am. Location is tentatively in Red Bluff in Tehama County, but that is still to be confirmed. Once confirmed, <i>Jill will post to ACCG web.</i></p> <p>Biomass collaborative; less talk, more action; BLM has offered to help with planning and projects. Thanks to Michael Pickard for his work on the strategic plan.</p> <p>Susan McMorris, BMCRC: ball park in Railroad Flat; have full lease; new project setting up a traveling team. Look at RRF school, amazing. Lots of projects; music, 3D printer; prosthetic; teaching non-standard stuff.</p> <p>Elizabeth Meyer-Shields, BLM : BLM is staffing up after a wave of retirements. New wildlife biologist Jeff Jones started yesterday; job announcement for supervisor of outdoor recreation is on the street now; new law enforcement ranger in Nevada county just closed.</p> <p>Monte Kawahara, BLM: Lily Gap Project on hold, but waiting for fire restrictions to lift; DC needs 2 weeks notice; makes it hard; Behind schedule on CHIPS work; fuels reduction portion next year; planning next FY. Still need an archeologist. Mapping: SOFAR lesson, get data pulled together first over winter. Will Monte be BLM representative for landscape planning workgroup???</p> <p>Katherine Evatt, Foothill Conservancy: Amador county zoning code changes brought about by the FC-Amador County general plan litigation settlement agreement impose new conditions on development of subdivisions 5 or more units/lot in high fire-risk areas; better protected; also adopted fire response and prevention information distribution system; page on county web with fire risk maps, contact information, etc. County will now notify new owners and local realtors of fire hazard information and levels of emergency response.</p> <p>Deb Phillips, Greater Valley Conservation Corps: October finished fuel break contracts in Calaveras; Pumpkin Hollow; starting in Hemlock-Cabbage Patch.</p> <p>Tim Tate, SPI: main operating season mostly over; sustained serious losses in Camp Fire; thousands of acres; significant losses (both acres and volume) in all major California fires; disruptive to our program; Paradise had significant timber volume within the city limits; those trees will need to come</p>

Amador Calaveras Consensus Group

Minutes

Wednesday November 14, 2018 -- 9:30 AM-12:00 PM

Item #	Agenda Item
	<p>out. These types of fires not sustainable. We need to do something; treat to limit size of fires. What do all these fires have in common? All start small; thousands of starts every year, but most don't become mega fires; don't lose perspective. Treatments to contain fires – it's a big deal,</p> <p>Robert Smith, Smith Grinding: working on Bailey, about done; 50+acres. Mastication in tree plantations usually goes more quickly than this; Bailey is different because the trees are really close; hard to get equipment in, so must use hand crews. Every plantation/project and every unit is different. Hard to scope work and costs. ACCG started with local focus, but UMWRA is not really hiring local contractors acreages can no longer be treated at less than \$1200/acre and that is a risk. A discussion about trees on Smith's road that need to be removed (on BLM land) ensued, with Monte Kawahara stating that removing trees in a county road right of way is the county's responsibility. <i>Liz Meyer-Shields will address offline with Tim Tate and Robert Smith.</i></p> <p>Kendal Young, USFS: Kendall is working in Calaveras RD office. Working on supplemental annual report and scenario planning. Welcome back!</p> <p>Gerald Schwartz, EBMUD; Richard Sykes has nearly retired, but will join UMWRA as EO; recently gave new employees a tour of the territory.</p> <p>Trish Frazier, Mother Lode Job Training: Due to turnover at MLJT, she is moving to another position; have a national resources grant for on-the-job training, PT temp or FT subsidized. Contact Trish if you have work for her people.</p> <p>Ray Cablayan, USFS Stanislaus: many fires; FS has sent resources to Woolsey Fire; asked KendalYoung to attend meeting; has been back ~2 months; in transition; helping with annual report.</p> <p>John Heissenbuttel, CalAm Team: Jan and Pat are working on grants; \$2-4M coordinated thru Amador County Fire Safe Council. All are fuel reduction grants. Amador FSC meets here today at 3:00. All are welcome to attend.</p> <p>Joe Aragon, USFS Stanislaus: Black Springs ready to be signed; timber component being worked before snow; may start with next phase; national CFLR coordinator has offered to attend or present at next general meeting. <i>Jill to determine if we can put this on the January agenda.</i></p> <p>Michael Pickard, Sierra Nevada Conservancy: December Board meeting in Sacramento on December 5-6 in Sacramento – info is on their web site; there will be a retirement party for EO Jim Branham. On website; public comment period closed; if approved, strategic conservation land trust will start in January; prop 68 money for community resiliency and tourism and recreation; CR grants allow for capacity building, i.e., collaboratives, etc. no dates yet. Assume January; new process. Grant seekers will work with Michael, who will send promising proposals up the chain. Not competitive; probably revolving.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Michael will not be around in January... will be taking family leave – new baby girl! Congratulations Michael!</i></p>
12	<p>Wrap up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch after the meeting at the Mel & Faye's Diner, 31 CA-88, Jackson, CA 95642 – continue conversations and networking there! • Next meeting January 16th 2019 (<i>no December meeting</i>). Speaker will be our new facilitator. Location: TBD • NO DECEMBER MEETING! HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!
Meeting Adjourns at Noon	

Attendees: Ben Solvesky, SFL; Susan McMorris, BMCRC; Elizabeth Meyer-Shields, BLM; Diana Barg, BLM; Liz Gregg, CSERC; Heidi Beswick, CSERC; Monte Kawahara, BLM; Trish Frazier, MLJT; Michael Pickard, SNC; Rich Farrington, AWA/UMRWA; Katherine Evatt, FC; Joe Aragon, USFS; Ray Cablayan, USFS; Robert Smith, Smith Grinding; Tim Tate, SPI; Sue Holper, citizen; Deb Phillips, GVCC; Kendall Young, USFS; Chuck

Amador Calaveras Consensus Group

Minutes

Wednesday November 14, 2018 -- 9:30 AM-12:00 PM

Loffland, USFS; David Griffith, ABC; John Heissenbuttel, CalAm Team; Jill Micheau, ACCG Admin; Robin Wall, USFS; Steve Wilensky, CHIPS.

Materials available on ACCG website:

- October minutes for review (to be approved at meeting): [Oct 17 -2018 ACCG General MINUTES v3JMM](#)
- Agenda for today's meeting
- Strategic Plan — updated per our October discussion. We will be focusing on Goal 3: <http://acconsensus.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/STRAT-PLAN-Update-10-21-2018-JMM.pdf>
 - Goal 3 only: [Goal 3 as of 10-28-2018](#)
- Arnold-Avery project information: <http://acconsensus.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/SFL-and-FC.Comments.Arnold-Avery.10-30-2018.pdf>
- Introduction to CBI professional facilitation services: [CBI Facilitation Services Intro Presentation_11-14-18_v2](#)
- Article on Pat McGreevy's projects: [Article on McGreevy Projects](#)
- Admin discussion topic: meeting locations for 2019: [Meeting Location Data](#)

Action Items:

- ☐ Micheau: update October minutes and post to ACCG website – **DONE**
- ☐ Micheau: transcribe flip chart notes for Goal 3 strategic objectives; organize follow up activities
- ☐ Ray Cablayan to talk with Forest Supervisor Jason Kuiken to see if he is willing to meet with those who have concerns about the Arnold-Avery project to see if there is a way to resolve conflicts over the project (note to Jill – I think the intent here was more to focus on the substance of the project and the process rather than the CFLR funding)
- ☐ Micheau: secure meeting rooms for 2019 general meetings and publish schedule
- ☐ Aragon: send out agenda for 11/28 Planning WG meeting
- ☐ Starrett: provide update on October and November projects at January meeting.
- ☐ Liz Meyer-Shields: address BLM tree issue offline with Tim Tate and Robert Smith.
- ☐ Young: Send ACCG historical info to Micheau if you can find it; Provide project check list if available.