**MEETING NOTES | ACCG Monitoring Group**

**Date/Time**: Wednesday, April 10 2019, 9 – 11

**Location**: Virtual

**Teleconference**: 1-888-844-9904 Access Code: 2383642

**Video Conference:** <https://fs-fed.webex.com>/meet/bestes

(if we need access to this please let me know and I can send out the information)

Attendees – Gwen Starrett, Helen Loffland, Michael Pickard, Mo Loden, Alaina Osimowicz

**MEETING GOALS**

1. Follow up on scenario planning from full group meeting
2. Identify needs for Large Landscape Scale Analysis
3. Plan for Summer Field Season and Future Meetings

**MEETING MATERIALS**

1. Agenda
2. Notes from the ACCG Full Group Meeting

Attendees -

| **AGENDA ITEM** |
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| **Agenda Review, Action Item Review, Regroup*** Next meeting – May 2019
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| **ACCG Monitoring Scenario Planning Presentation Follow Up*** Review notes taken in full group meeting
* Identify next steps or actions that need to be taken for our long term management

**Priority - Funding for Monitoring Cornerstone projects** Under CFLR, monitoring requirements go to Sept2027 but there is no funding for that entire period.**No silver bullet – Discussion of possible funding sources*** Add monitoring to project grants, when feasible. This could help cover 1-year post implementation. CalFire CCI Forest Health – 10% can go to monitoring within project area
* Universities – academic type grants. Not much money here.
* SNC isn’t funding Large scaling assessment planning –but they are seeing the need with a lot of proposals. SNC is elevating the issue.
* NFWF put a lot of money into protocols and assessment early on. Getting post-restoration funding has been very difficult.
* Private funds – they want something tangible, a product.

**Recommendations and Follow Up*** We recommend a monitoring plan that includes both quantitative and qualitative measures, as well as a reliance on remote sensing data to augment on-the-ground monitoring.
* **Follow-up (Gwen via Rick Hopson)**: Check with Lindsay Buchanan at the WO to find out what other groups are doing and if our plan of remote sensing, quantitative and qualitative measures meets the CFLR requirements.
* By 2020, entire SNF will have LiDAR. Use with National Aerial Imagery P. to track changes in forest vegetation. Estimate biomass and change. “FoDAR “– talk to Liz VanWagtendonk at U. Washington who is working with a group in Mariposa county, to determine what type of data you can get from this process. They are using it for pre-assessment and post-implementation. She could be guest at a possible future training. Michael is contact person.
* Climate Engine – use that to look at changes, not just on meadows. NDVI flown every other day. LANDSAT resolution is 30 m grid. Check back with Shana on data analysis. What is best method and analysis? If given enough guidance could we work with GIS professors (Columbia College) to have them use our data requests as student exercises.
* Qualitative – photomonitoring. Could FS staff or volunteers do this monitoring in future.
* SCALE – discuss the issue of long-term monitoring with them. May 29-31st in Jackson?
* BUDGET beyond 2019. Alaina talked with Joe and since there have been no appropriations from the Farm Bill, we don’t have an update on funding.
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| **ACCG Large Landscape Analysis**Stems from ACCG strategic plan. To embrace all lands project, we need a more coordinated approach. Current approach is more of a project-based approach. We need to develop a pipeline of projects that team members could implement when funding is available. This will help us continue an all lands approach post-CFLR funds. Easiest first step would be mapping at a project basis. Looking at where projects are planned, where they are completed. Non-CFLR projects are developed by partners and write grants -then they often come to the full ACCG for a support letter. Not really collaboratively developed. Grant applications need a better idea of the landscape level work so the grants are more competitive.Hoping that the planning group would be looking at an all-lands large planning approach. SoFAR had a mapping day that Kendal organized. Project components brought in SHP files already started and projects that they want to do. Monitoring group seems to be more the science and data driven group. What data, metadata do we want? What quality assurance do we need? Set up a mapping day. Goal- define areas where the ACCG as a collaborative is wanting to do work. What do we want to include? (Prelim. Discussion)1. Projects that are completed (probably in last 15 years, unless a large timber harvest.) Don’t clutter map with projects that lifespan has past. First entry date, last entry date.
2. Projects in planning phase – ACCG doesn’t have much a role in these because ACCG doesn’t have a voice in these.
3. Projects in pipeline – ACCG has a role in developing these projects. Especially important because CFLR funds will be gone in two years. Planning group would be the place for this work.
4. FS FACT database from the last 15 years. Some of the FS data is very detailed – how much detail do we want?
5. CalFire, Amador RCD, Calaveras RCD. AFSCs – what info do we want from them. Info on fuel loads in WUI.
6. Guidelines – Come up with list of metadata. Kendal might be the point person, borrow guidelines from SoFAR. Becky has more info here? UC Davis Information Center for the Environment?
7. Mapping Data – also need to translate non-GIS projects. Who owns maps and updates maps?
8. Stanislaus is jumping into the large landscape analysis. Will be helpful for ACCG to dovetail with that analysis. That would be ultimate goal. But ACCG doesn’t have resources to do that. Calaveras has some projects that are planned, Mattley, e.g.
9. Data storage – google drive folder that is view only. Ultimately webviewer

**Recommendations and Follow Up*** One page overview – **Michael** will develop and present at next full ACCG meeting. Try to reach Kendal and see if he can provide advice.

. * Proposed Mapping Date – May 22nd – afternoon of the planning meeting? **Alaina will follow up with Joe** to see if this can be added to agenda.
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| **Summer Field Work/Volunteer Events (see below)*** **Caples Creek – CNPS, chainsaw training**

Mo might be interested in the chainsaw training.* Bumblebee Survey – Helen doing surveys in Foster meadows and maybe this could be a tag-along site. Volunteers might be able to help with photos and data collection. Announce through ACCG.
* Alpine Watershed Group – quarterly monitoring in June, August and September. Currently monitoring in Carson River watershed. More proactive in monitoring algal bloom on Indian Creek, Red Lake, Wet Meadow reservoir. Partnered State Water Board. They are doing training to do microscopic ID. Working with them to get funding.
* **Photomonitoring – Tyler, High onion**
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| **Roundtable, Adjourn, Agenda Development for Next Meeting** |

**Task list:**

* Becky will check on other forests that are completing DBP **(Becky)**
* Identify final report on Indian Valley **(Shana)**
* Get FACTs database for those outside of the FS for the Power Fire (**Helen – work with district to accomplish this**) (Did we accomplish this and did we share it? Maybe put it on the box?)
* Talk to Jeff about timeline for site prep and planting and update monitoring schedule (**Becky) (done) (update at April meeting) (the variable density will not be planted this year but might be great to schedule a field trip to planted sites to establish some of our photo points)**
* Foster Firs - bird monitoring for 2018 - who has done this? Helen/Alissa coordinate schedule on monitoring work (**ALL**)
* Check on the regional bird monitoring - need maps for these areas - quick and dirty veg estimation plots **(Alissa)**
* Veg data for avian monitoring might be used for range photo share with Robin (**Alissa**)
* Regroup on thermcouples and work in - should we pull these out before winter **(Becky**)
* Piezometers in Upper Onion (check with Chuck etc on what needs to happen with paperwork) (nothing needed in LTBMU – check with Shana on work and results)
* Locate any old data on Foster – also there are plots that take Consumes data plots and overlays with Ecology Plots (**Becky)**
* Check how many plots in Thompson (marked prescription) versus Cabbage (DbyP) (**Becky**)
* Need to add Beverly Bualon’s monitoring, bee monitoring for Upper Onion, regional bird monitoring into database
* Contact Martha Conklin UC Merced about status of snow study **(Alaina).** Reached out to Martha twice and haven’t heard back. However, Zach Croyle, hydrologist has indicated that he thinks they are monitoring.
* Talk to Joe and Robin about 2020/2021 monitoring budget **(Alaina).** Alaina talked with Joe. No funding has been set aside yet for 2020/2021.

**Future Meetings/Volunteers Opportunities**

* Workshop/Seminar on FireBat/FireBird from Point Blue – Zack
* Cosumnes veg. plots – Will Shana and Becky have time this summer? Helen is starting to transfer data into GIS and interested in how to move forward. Need money for a project coordinator. Goal for this year - field trip and relocation activity. Volunteer activity is to look for plots. **Helen** is interested in looking into funding and project design in future years. She will send out info to group.
* Power Fire – 2019 Field trip to photomonitor. It has been site prepped, planting not until fall. Veg monitoring would be 2020.
* Panther – Will not be until 2020 or later
* Upper Onion, Tyler – Conifer removal – meadow boundaries and meadow footprint is ongoing in 2019. Once conifer removal is complete, then you can do monitoring and look at post conifer and pre-hydrology in 2020. Monitor in 2022 for both treatments.
* Power Fire bumblebee – Last year of monitoring. Will be getting post-treatment on some of the herbicide treatments. Difficult to have volunteers because it takes a lot of training. Set up a field day to tag along with crews.
* Bumblebee monitoring in meadows – Foster. May be a year of monitoring within the Plumas Corp. grant. To do – add bee monitoring within Foster and Upper Onion to our database. **Becky** add wildlife to Foster and Upper Onion.
* Little Indian – Pre-project bird monitoring point counts. Helen has conducted these surveys.
* Amphibian Watch – will that continue? **Becky** will check with Traci.
* Amphibian Surveys – **Alissa** will she be monitoring in 2019 if NFWF grant is funded.
* Foster Firs – Hemlock ongoing, Foster will not be completely treated by 2019.
* Range monitoring – **Shana** will let Gwen and Helen know when Tahoe range monitoring is happening so they can learn those techniques to bring to their meadow restoration projects. Based on frequency monitoring – what is remaining, species composition. Keep Alissa in the loop.