ACCG April 2022 Monitoring Meeting

Attending: Becky Estes, Sue Britting, Zach Croyle, Helen Loffland, Chuck Loffland, Linda Diesum, Meredith (Foothill Conservancy)

**Monitoring Symposium**

* Leadership Support – ENF leadership supports, we are good to move ahead
* California Fire Science Consortium –Stacey has agreed to coordinate registration and organize the Zoom/Adobe Connect interface, capture recording. Stacy Sargent-Frederick ([ssfrederick@berkeley.edu)](mailto:ssfrederick@berkeley.edu))

**Topic/session structure**

11 topics, each topic 15 minutes with 5 minutes discussion; plan for discussion at end of each session block (not clear to me, but seemed like there would be two session blocks) (see draft agenda in spreadsheet)

Timing: 9 am to 3:30 pm

**Topics we agreed to include in symposium** (see excel spreadsheet for more detail and assignments)

**Vegetation**

**Oak management –** Helen will contact Martin Ritchie for both webinar and field tour; student maybe working with Martin and could present on the tour; Becky will reach out to Jonathan and Pascal about tour sites to visit even if no research person can attend the tour.

**Prescribed burns** – Jesse would be a good person for field tour, but not clear if he will have time (chuck will contact); Becky will reach out to Malcolm or Jamie for webinar

**Early reintroduction to prescribed fire in plantations** – Becky will follow up with Rob York

**Plantation management** – Iris Allen interested in presenting at webinar (Becky will contact), but she would not do field tour; okay top move forward without a field tour component

**Lessons learned** – Look for someone from Stanislaus/Rim Fire (Zach and Becky will work on this)

**Climate adaptation** – Becky to follow up with Jessica Wright on planning

**Wildlife focused topics**

**bumblebees** (Helen)

**birds** (Alissa)

**CSO management in post-fire landscapes –** Chuck can talk about what post-fire management in Power Fire looked like; main change since Power Fire is information on post-fire activity centers and territory occupancy; Helen will reach out to Ryan (?) for fields tour due to his experience with Rim Fire

**Aquatics**

**Meadow Restoration Post-fire** – Zach will contact Tracy about this; also talked a bit about emergent stringer meadows and if anyone could speak to these (Becky will check in with Kyle and Michelle on the Plumas NF.

**Aquatics and post-fire restoration** – Chuck will reach out to Karen/Jeff about topic

**Limit field** tour to ACCG/SOFAR participants; ask for affiliation to ACCG/SOFAR in the registration; open up field tour registration to ACCG/SOFAR firsts: “field tour slots are limited, first priority will be for ACCG, and SOFAR members, other slots will go as a first come first serve basis”

**Reviewed flyer** – will ask Stacey to look over and revise before sending out

**Next steps on symposium** – use next call (May) to close out planning on webinar and focus on designing field tour

**Paper Discussions**

* **North et al.** Operational resilience in western US frequent-fire forests

ACCG intends to have a ppt to full group on this paper

* **Gross et al.** Meadow monitoring protocols (invite someone to speak to us)

Helen mentions that there is a Sierra Meadows tour to Ackerson Meadow to talk about monitoring protocols. Becky interested in a field tour for ACCG (monitoring group) to meet and talk with one of the authors about the meadow monitoring protocols

**Round Robin**

**Aspen field tour –** July 21-22; one topic of interest is aspen and post-fire landscapes; contact Becky if you are interested

**Aspen project** – Helen worked UMRWA to submit a proposal to WCB. Helen reported that Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) has recommended the project for acceptance and approval by the WCB is expected. She expects funding to be available in mid-2022; it is primarily a planning grant. The proposal has a lot of monitoring built into it.

**Great gray owl** - Helen has been working with Jeff Jones/BLM to look at great gray owl and modeled habitat on BLM lands. She wants to look at the model again more broadly and assess where great gray owl might now occur. Becky suggests talking more about that at future meeting.

**Update from Chuck:** Aspen surveys Helen is describing will feed into the UMWRA Phase 2 FPP project for treatment. UMWRA FPP Phase 1 project should go out to scoping this Friday, 25k acres, hand thinning, mechanical thinning < 12" dbh, prescribed burning. The aspen treatment has pretty much been gutted out of this project, but should be in Phase 2.

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**Update from Meredith:** mentions recent paper on cultural burning – Meredith participated in some of the data collection on the paper which used pollen cores to evaluate changes in forest structure

Knight, C.A., Anderson, L., Bunting, M.J., Champagne, M., Clayburn, R.M., Crawford, J.N., Klimaszewski-Patterson, A., Knapp, E.E., Lake, F.K., Mensing, S.A. and Wahl, D., 2022. Land management explains major trends in forest structure and composition over the last millennium in California’s Klamath Mountains. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *119*(12), p.e2116264119. <https://www.pnas.org/doi/full/10.1073/pnas.2116264119>

**April Task List**

**All**

* Symposium: work with Becky to contact speakers prior to next meeting (See spreadsheet for all assignments)

**Becky**

* Send flyer and 2022 symposium docs to group for final review

**Chuck**

* Review 2020 field trip stops for efficiency and ability to address multiple topics in one location

**Megan**

* Create a cheatsheet for Google Awesome Tables

**Ongoing Task List**

**All**

* Use SLAWG to help address whether we are treating/monitoring the right acres.
* Share relevant papers or talks that might be important to share with the group
* Monitoring Briefs – Many current through 2017, update those that are presenting at the ACCG
* ACCG Monitoring members asked to provide updates to Becky (who has edit privileges for Awesome table) in ACCGProjectsforWebsite\_2021.xls in Box External. Include presentations, spatial data, photos.
* Megan requesting more field work photos from everyone for web site (post to external Box drive)
* Add Little Indian Valley, Thompson, and Foster Firs to Climate Engine monitoring

**Becky**

* Continue to merge all monitoring spatial data into one place
* Determine whether the Forest Service can house the spatial database on our ArcGIS Online

**Helen**

* Look at range plots for potential inclusion to address monitoring strategy questions

**Zac**

* Check to see if Matley got read prior to implementation by the range monitoring program

## **Future Agenda Topics**

1. Monitoring Strategy - review the strategy and see if there is something else we might need to pursue (ongoing)
   1. Track key issues and make sure we are monitoring them
   2. Is there any new information gained that can be applied to management?
2. CA Forest Observatory – could be a good topic for our group (this might be a great SLAWG topic as well)
3. Landscape Scale Assessment – circle back to reporting and how we can tackle assessing at a broader scale – maybe LiDAR will help us with this? (linked to part 2 of SLAWG been postponed)
   1. Think about how we can use the LiDAR as a monitoring tool and start looking at outputs
   2. Shana could present about how was used in LTW for assessment and now for monitoring
   3. Presentation on LiDAR products once it is available for the ENF (maybe have Van and UW folks to talk about the LiDAR outputs for the ACCG)
4. Summarizing data now that we have data – what projects need a report out?
   1. discuss how information is being presented/translated and if we can improve that
5. 2023 symposium to cover monitoring projects on the Stanislaus
6. Meadow monitoring protocol comparison, Kyle or Shana – field visit of monitoring workgroup for late summer
7. Short presentation to appropriate audience re: need for monitoring funds post-project (up to 10 years post).