

Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

Planning Work Group Meeting Summary, July 28, 2021, On-line Meeting

Prepared by Megan Layhee, CHIPS (meganl.chips@gmail.com)

Meeting Brief

- Debrief on July general meeting herbicide alternatives panel and postponement of Dr. Robert York's presentation related to this panel.
- Continued discussion on large landscape planning, and also short-term need to get work done on the ground. Next steps were to perform a mapping exercise during the August Planning WG meeting to look at the SLAWG GIS Tools (risk assessment outputs, project mapper), with USFS R5 first-iteration PODs layer to assess potential priority PODs to identify for future funding opportunities.
- Participant project-related updates and other updates.
- Next WG meeting is Wednesday, August 25th, 9am-12pm.

Action Items

Actions	Point Person(s)
Follow up with Dr. York to reschedule his postponed presentation to the ACCG.	Layhee
Reach out to John Buckley to get access to 5 priority SERAL PODs.	Layhee
Pyrosilviculture Shared Vision Statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure Dr. North will speak to the 2021 paper during his August GM presentation.• Include draft statement in the August GM agenda and place it as a discussion.• Ask Dr. North to stay for the shared vision statement discussion during the August GM.• Ensure August agenda item includes discussion and proposed adoption of the shared vision statement to the August GM.	Layhee
Add herbicide alternatives panel objectives back to Planning WG agendas.	Layhee
Continue outreach for guest speakers on large landscape planning and modeling.	Layhee
Bring information on a FS policy document pertaining to managed wildfire at an upcoming Planning WG meeting.	Hopson
Prepare to facilitate a 90-minute mapping exercise for August Planning WG meeting to explore the ACCG SLAWG GIS tools (risk assessment outputs, project mapper) overlaid with the USFS R5 first-iteration PODs for the Sierra Nevada, and the delineated "priority" PODs from the STF SERAL project, to explore and identify "priority"	Layhee

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Summary

Agenda Review and May Meeting Summary Approval

The Planning Work Group (WG) met via Zoom video-conference. The WG confirmed the agenda and June 2021 meeting summary without revision.

July General Meeting Debrief on Herbicide Alternatives Panel

The group discussed the value of the presentations and information provided during the July general meeting herbicide alternatives panel by Sean Krietch and Dan Macon.

The group also discussed and agreed that developing a set of guidelines for:

- 1) conditions where it would be possible to get consensus support for herbicide use, and
- 2) alternatives to herbicides that should be considered under certain conditions;

would be very beneficial for future project development. However, at this time this is not a pressing task for the Planning WG, and could be pushed off until winter. It was suggested by a participant that a tiered approach to herbicide use (with CNPS guidelines as a possible template) could be beneficial.

It was suggested to keep the herbicide alternatives objectives on future Planning WG agendas until Dr. York can come speak again. Megan will coordinate with Dr. York to come back to the ACCG to present on his work related to herbicide alternatives. It was also noted that the ACCG would benefit from hearing from Dr

Also noted during this discussion that the Eldorado NF should be bringing forward a FB maintenance project to the ACCG in the near future.

Discussion then focused on the value and necessity of getting things done on the ground now, potentially “low-hanging fruit” implementation, while continuing to build and develop the ACCG landscape planning toolbox (e.g., SERAL). Participants proposed to spend 90 minutes at the August Planning WG meeting to determine location of “priority” PODs for treatments using the ACCG SLAWG GIS tools (risk assessment outputs, project mapper), USFS R5 first-iteration PODs for the Sierra Nevada, and delineated “priority” PODs from the STF SERAL project.

FS staff cautioned the group focusing on “low-hanging fruit”, won’t solve the problem and won’t get us to more large landscape projects.

Next steps:

- Megan Layhee will reach out to John Buckley to get access to STF PODs.

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- Megan Layhee will reach out to SERAL team and ask if they can speak at a general meeting instead of Planning WG.
- Megan Layhee will follow up with Dr. York to reschedule his presentation related to alternatives to herbicides. Noted that having Dr. York come present on both herbicide alternatives and pyrosilviculture will be too much.
- Megan Layhee will add herbicide alternatives panel objectives back to Planning WG agendas.

Pyrosilviculture Ad Hoc Group Shared Vision Statement

Rich Farrington gave an overview of the Pyrosilviculture Ad Hoc shared vision statement. Ad Hoc group recommend that the Planning WG recommend this statement to the full ACCG.

Planning WG gave the Ad Hoc support and made a recommendation to the full ACCG to consider supporting the vision statement as a collaborative principal document to drive future direction.

Note: FS abstained from voting on the shared vision statement.

It was also noted that looking ahead it's important to work closely with both researchers and land managers for this effort.

Next steps:

- Megan Layhee will ensure Dr. North will speak to the 2021 paper during his August GM presentation.
- Megan will include this draft statement in the August GM agenda and place it as a discussion.
- Megan will have a conversation with Dr. North that he sticks around for the shared vision statement
- Discussion and proposed adoption of the shared vision statement to the August GM.
- Ask Dr. York to come present on his 2021 paper he coauthored on pyrosilviculture concepts.

Large Landscape Projects

Discussions continued on the proposed 90-minute August Planning WG meeting mapping exercise for the group to be able to explore the ACCG SLAWG GIS tools (risk assessment outputs, project mapper) overlaid with the USFS R5 first-iteration PODs for the Sierra Nevada, and in addition to the delineated "priority" PODs from the STF SERAL project. This mapping exercise as an effort to determine location of "priority" PODs for treatments, much like the process UMRWA will soon be undertaking for their Forest Projects Plan. The secondary step to

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this mapping exercise is to take these identified priority areas to local experts (FS staff), and also ground truth (e.g., LIDAR, field visits).

Participants also stressed the importance of the partnership and collaboration between UMRWA and ACCG as they moved forward with their Forest Projects Plan and large landscape project planning and implementation efforts in the Upper Mokelumne River watershed.

Some participants also stressed that continued expansion of the ACCG SLAWG GIS toolbox will be necessary to get to strategic, all-lands large landscape planning.

Next steps:

- Megan Layhee will prepare to facilitate a 90-minute mapping exercise with Planning WG participants at the August meeting to explore the ACCG SLAWG GIS tools (risk assessment outputs, project mapper) overlaid with the USFS R5 first-iteration PODs for the Sierra Nevada, and in addition to the delineated “priority” PODs from the STF SERAL project.

Other Action Items – FS Policies outlining managed wildfire

FS staff mentioned that there is a document with language pertaining to policies for managed wildfire on national forest lands. FS will present on this document at the August Planning WG meeting.

Next steps:

- Rick Hopson will provide information on a FS policy document and the language included pertaining to managed wildfire at an upcoming Planning WG meeting.

Meeting Participant Updates, Project Updates & Other Meeting Updates

Project Updates

Question about the blow down and is there disaster relief money.

- ENF - Regional office funds for planning assistance; with existing contracts and available operators and get in and do blow down removal work
- Not taking anything standing. How does it affect burn plans? – write new contracts.

Also, Nancy Nordensten is the new ENF SO NEPA coordinator, and now that Randy Moore is the new Chief of the Forest, Jennifer Eberline is now Regional Forester for USFS R5. Participants asked if Jennifer could come meet with the ACCG, and FS staff said yes, they will arrange that.

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Upcoming General Meeting and Planning WG Meeting Presenters

Herbicide Alternatives Panel Presentation Planning
Date: July 21, 2021 general meeting (Reschedule with Dr. York)
Suggested duration: 90-minutes
Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and discuss alternatives to herbicides. • Conditions where alternatives to herbicides would apply. • Discussion on some of the shortcomings of herbicide alternatives. • Can project objectives be adjusted to avoid the proposed use of herbicide treatments?
Prospective Speakers: The WG recommended no more than 3-4 speakers for the panel. List of Possible Panelists identified in by Planning Work Group Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Robert York, UCCE Specialist, UCB-CNR Research Stations Advisor, Adjunct Associate Professor of Forestry (Note: Dr. York was confirmed after the May 26th Planning WG meeting.)

Next Steps

- The next Planning Work Group meeting will be on Wednesday, August 25th, 2021. The meeting will take place on-line via Zoom.

Meeting Participants

#	Name	Affiliation	Miles (N/A-online)	Hours
1	Charles Beckman	EBMUD	--	3.0
2	Caitlyn Rich	CSERC	--	3.0
3	Bud Hoekstra	Private landowner	--	3.0
4	Greg Suba	SFL	--	3.0
5	John Buckley	CSERC	--	3.0
6	Megan Fiske	FC	--	3.0
7	Megan Layhee	CHIPS (facilitator)	--	3.0
8	Nancy Nordensten	ENF	--	1.5
9	Rich Farrington	UMRWA	--	3.0
10	Rick Hopson	ENF, Amador RD	--	3.0
11	Sara Husby	CSERC	--	3.0