

Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

Planning Work Group Meeting Summary, October 27, 2021, Zoom Meeting, megan.layhee1@gmail.com

Meeting Brief

- Discuss next steps for the Pyrosilviculture Ad Hoc group moving forward with their Shared Vision.
- Discuss Planning Work Group meeting frequency moving forward, value of meeting in November if there is no update on the Forest Projects Plan, and next steps on helping the FS move forward with planning and implementation.
- Discuss upcoming guest speakers and topics for the remainder of 2021 and into 2022.
- Review and update Planning Work Group meeting action item list.
- Meeting participant updates.
- Next Planning Work Group meeting – TBD via Zoom. If after follow up with the Calaveras RD, we will not have a November meeting but plan to meet in January 2022 for an update on the UMRWA FPP.

Action Items

Actions	Point Person(s)
Post September meeting summary as final to the ACCG website.	Layhee
Get PODs boundary layer from both forests.	Layhee
Continue to take photo documentation in the field to validate LIDAR data.	Layhee (ongoing)
Provide information on a FS policy document pertaining to managed wildfire at an upcoming Planning WG meeting.	Amador RD
Continue to provide Planning WG with update on UMRWA's FPP Phase 1 and Phase 2 development.	Layhee (ongoing)
Build relationship between ACCG and SOFAR	All (ongoing) Greg Suba
Follow up with the district staff to see if they have a list of needs or priority areas for implementation that the ACCG can help them with. If they do have something they want to bring to the ACCG Planning Work Group, that will determine if the group meets in November.	Layhee
Follow up with FS about having a 10-year CFLR look-back presentation at a 2022 ACCG general meeting	Layhee

Agenda Review and May Meeting Summary Approval

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

Brief on Future General Meeting Topics and Format

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Reviewed the general meeting hybrid format. Discussed potential speakers and topics for 2022.

Pyrosilviculture Shared Vision and Ah Hoc

Began discussions on defining broad plan for implementing shared vision. Start with the five steps Greg Suba proposed (in email to the Ad Hoc group dated 10/21/2021):

1. Understand the landscape and subdivide it into strategically derived fire management areas (aka, containment areas within POD boundaries, boxes, etc.)
2. Agree on strategy for where, when, and how best to manage for fire within every containment area / box, and between containment areas / boxes.
3. Identify which boxes are in most urgent need of work in order to apply, manage, and/or suppress fire effectively and as safely as possible.
4. Seek and obtain funding for that work.
5. 5. Implement 1st-entry fire and/or thinning followed by fire as planned.

Also discussed Ad Hoc group next steps and next meeting date. Group decided to cancel November meeting.

Large Landscape Projects & Project Planning, and Discussion on Planning WG Next Steps and Charge for 2022

Group discussed frustrations with Planning Work Group meetings lately, and that there is not a lot of substantive planning occurring lately. All agreed that UMRWA's FPP is a vital step increasing pace and scale within the ACCG landscape. Megan added that there will most likely not be anything substantial to discuss concerning the FPP Phase 1 by the November 2021 Planning Work Group meeting.

One participant asked if there is anything needs or identified next treatment areas apart from the FPP that the ACCG could help secure funding for. Also added that it is not clear how the Planning WG, or the broader ACCG can help increase pace and scale of the two districts and need that direction from the FS on how the collaborative can assist.

- Amador District staff stressed that they are swamped with work by the Caldor Fire and will therefore have a limited program of work aside from the Caldor Fire in 2022, and that UMRWA's FPP is a focus for the district.
- Calaveras District staff added that they would need to talk internally. Megan will follow up with the district staff. If they do have something they want to bring to the ACCG Planning Work Group, that will determine if the group meets in November.

Megan suggested to the group that they only plan to meet when UMRWA has a significant update to provide. The group agreed that the Planning WG will meet on an as-needed basis,

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when there is an update or discussion needed related to the UMRWA FPP or any other planning or implementation-related project development to discuss.

Rick Hopson also suggested that the ACCG begin to build a relationship with the SOFAR collaborative and to work together. Greg Suba, ACCG member and SOFAR Landscape Vision Work Group member, will bring this suggestion to the next SOFAR meeting he attends and see if he can begin to build that connection and see if someone from that collaborative would like to come to an ACCG meeting to see how we can begin to start building relationships.

Carinna also mentioned the portion of the Calaveras District not covered by the UMRWA FPP or YSS SERAL project, and that she doesn't want any more missed opportunities, don't want the ACCG to block projects and that the STF Forest Supervisor wants to see a large landscape project for the district.

- Greg suggested that the PODs process is done on the Calaveras District, and figure out who has the capacity to do the PODs analysis (i.e., FS or ACCG, or UMRWA?), then the STF staff and ACCG, and possibly UMRWA meet to have the discussion about the where, when and how.

Bud added that priorities areas for treatment also depends on water, and added that water is an even more important forest resource than timber. So, to increase water yield, thinning will help to help with groundwater recharge.

- Randy agreed with Bud's comment that thinning helps groundwater recharge and back into watershed. Also wanted to add that GSNR is making a presentation to the Tuolumne County BOS about the pelletizing plants including the one in Keystone in November 16th, and will share that with the ACCG.
- Another participant added to this conversation that there was an analysis conducted by Dr. Roger Bates and Dr. Martha Konklin to understand to what degree thinning logging increases water yield, and they found that modeling shows it does increase water yield, but that since there is so many complexities and variables, it's difficult to conclude and prove it; and that the pyrosilviculture ad hoc group will be looking at all the variables.

Next steps:

- Megan will follow up with the district staff to see if they have a list of needs or priority areas for implementation that the ACCG can help them with. If they do have something they want to bring to the ACCG Planning Work Group, that will determine if the group meets in November.
- Greg Suba will take the suggestion that the ACCG and SOFAR begin to build relationships to the next SOFAR meeting he attends.
- Megan will follow up with Carinna, Ray and Rick about when we should have the presentation on the 10 years of the CFLR: early 2022 general meeting most likely.

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- Megan will follow up with Carinna about getting the STF's latest PODs boundary layer.
- Megan will follow up with Rick about the managed wildfire (geospatial based model).

Participant Updates

Rick Hopson mentioned that Randy Striplin is the new Natural Resources Staff Officer (SO) and comes from the Regional Office, and James Thornob who replaced Paul Leuish as the new District FMO.

Megan Fiske added that Meredith Sierra is the new Watershed Conservation and Land Use Advocate with Foothill Conservancy.

Updates/Next Steps

- The next Planning Work Group meeting will TBD. The meeting will take place on-line via Zoom.

Meeting Participants

#	Name	Affiliation	Miles (N/A-online)	Hours
1	John Buckley	CSERC	--	2.0
2	Caitlyn Rich	CSERC	--	2.0
3	Kellin Brown	STF, Calaveras RD	--	2.0
4	Megan Layhee	ACCG Administrator (facilitator)	--	2.0
5	Randy Hanvelt	ACL	--	2.0
6	Carinna Robertson	STF, Calaveras RD	--	2.0
7	Megan Fiske	FC	--	2.0
8	Meredith Sierra	FC	--	2.0
9	Greg Suba	SFL	--	2.0
10	Rick Hopson	USFS, Amador RD	--	2.0
11	Helen Loffland	IBP	--	2.0