

Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

Planning Work Group Zoom Meeting Summary, 09/28/2022, megan.layhee1@gmail.com

Meeting Brief

- Update on ACCG Shared Vision on Tribal Engagement. Work Group provided consensus recommendation on the shared vision document.
- Brief update on FPP Phase 1 next steps.
- Discussion on CA Wildfire Task Force SN Region September 27th meeting.
- Brief continuation of internal work group discussion on FPP Phase 2.
- Upcoming general meetings and topics.
- Participant and project-related updates.

Action Items

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Actions	Point Person(s)
Post August meeting summary as final to the ACCG website.	Layhee
Follow up with Becky Estes about getting ENF 2019 LiDAR products.	Layhee
Finalize shared vision document based on track changes made during today's meeting and consider including a reference section (e.g., Good Fire paper).	TEK/Tribal Engagement Shared Vision Ad Hoc
Provide debrief to ACCG at October 19 th general meeting about Sept 27 th CA Task Force Meeting.	Planning WG
Group agreed to spend a portion of the October 2022 Planning work group meeting defining the "ideal scenario" vs. "What we can live with" vs. "Controversial", for the various topics listed in the internal discussion notes (meeting supplemental material 05).	Planning WG
Develop cross walk between ACCG SLAWG Risk Assessment HRVAs and SN Regional Resource Kit pillars and metrics, and have it ready for October 2022 Planning WG meeting to discuss.	Layhee
Send out the link to the FPP Phase 1 team's slides from the August 2022 presentation to the Planning work group. These slides include information about the project proposed actions, acreages, map and schedule.	Layhee
Perform follow up on potential 2023 potential general meeting topics, including panel (i.e., Richard Sykes).	Layhee
Reach out to Michael Pickard to better understand Planscape/SN Resource Toolkit and which 3 pillars are available and can be used in Planscape.	Layhee
Provide Carinna with Patrick's contact info to learn more about SNA fellowship program.	John Buckley
Commit for CSERC to reach out to John Battles and others associated with the Resource Kit for answers to some of the questions that have been raised, and I will provide any answers to Megan for her to share.	John Buckley
inform the ACCG is the CBTSP will have a field day for the public around their scheduled prescribed burning days in November 2022.	Marcie Powers

Agenda Review and May Meeting Summary Approval

The Planning Work Group (WG) met via Zoom video-conference. The WG confirmed the September work group agenda with some modifications made during today's meeting, and the August work group meeting summary with minor suggested modifications from Rich Farrington.

ACCG Shared Vision on TEK and Tribal Engagement

Ad Hoc members: Rich Farrington, Thurman Roberts, Waylon Coats & Meredith Sierra

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The Ad Hoc group expressed that the Ad Hoc members were all in agreement of the shared vision document presented to meeting participants.

There was some minor changes made to the document during the meeting, which was the following is the updated third bullet under the “Actions” section of the shared vision document that was agreed upon during the meeting:

- ACCG will support (letters of support, etc.) efforts to acquire funding for TEK tribal consultation, TEK training, planning projects or implementation projects.

It was noted that developing this shared vision may help the ACCG be ahead of the curve and helpful to assist with project proponents engage more with tribes directly and actively, especially as more funding becomes available and more tribal projects (e.g., cultural burning) get up and running.

The [Good Fire paper](#) (full citation below) was recommended as a reference document for anyone wanting to learn more. Group then discussed the need for a reference section in the shared vision document, including the Good Fire paper as one reference item.

ACCG members in attendance at the meeting provided a consensus recommendation of the shared vision document (with the track changes made during the meeting) to bring before the full membership at the October 19th general meeting.

Sara A. Clark, Andrew Miller, & Don. L. Hankins, for the Karuk Tribe. 2021. Good fire: Current Barriers to the Expansion of Cultural Burning and Prescribed Fire in California and Recommended Solutions. Link to full report:

https://karuktribeclimatechangeprojects.files.wordpress.com/2022/06/karuk-prescribed-fire-rpt_2022_v2-1.pdf

Topic action items list:

- **Action item** – Megan will send shared vision document version with track changes made during today’ meeting to Rich Farrington; and Rich will consider including a reference section.

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Forest Projects Plan (FPP) Phase 1: Brief Update/Next Steps

FPP Phase 1 team will be coming to the October 26th Planning Work Group Zoom meeting to seek a consensus recommendation on the Forest Projects Plan (FPP) Phase 1 project. And by Friday, October 21st, the ACCG will have access to FPP Phase 1 documents (e.g., ACCG project submission form, draft decision, specialist reports, draft ACCG Letter of Support for Phase 1) for review ahead of the Oct 26th meeting.

Meeting participants requested that they receive the latest Phase 1 information. See action item below.

Topic action items list:

- **Action item:** Megan will send out the [link](#) to the FPP Phase 1 team's slides from the August 2022 presentation to the Planning work group. These slides include information about the project proposed actions, acreages, map and schedule.

CA Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force Sierra Nevada Region September 27th Meeting Debrief

Major takeaways from the Task Force meeting ([agenda](#), [webinar](#)):

- [Sierra Nevada Regional Resource Kit](#) is now available and the [Planscape](#) tool will be available March 2023 for the SN region. Unclear about the specifics of how to run the Planscape tool (e.g., How many pillars can be included in a scenario run? Are 3 pillars the target for the state?).
- The goal of this new state framework is to provide consistency across the region.
- Concerns about how collaboratives, like ACCG, have already taken steps towards landscape analyses (e.g., wildfire risk assessments, project mapper), and how it is not clear how this work would be incorporated into the regional resource kits. This also raised the concern that local knowledge and on-the-ground knowledge could be lost through this process. It was noted that this toolkit and decision support tool may be great for those “immature” collaboratives who’ve yet to do any sort of large-landscape analyses.
- It appears that the state agencies won’t necessarily be mandating that funding applicants use Regional Resource Toolkit/Planscape, but if they want to get funded by the state, then they should.
- It was noted that Planscape intends to incorporate climate metrics in addition to the pillars.

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- It's less clear if the Planscape decision support tool would be just required for receiving funding, or if project proponents would be expected to use this decision support tool for planning and implementation.
- Another key aspect of the Resource Toolkit is that the project proponent/funding applicant would monitor and measure grant deliverable outcomes in how they meet the pillars through project activities.
- It was also mentioned whether or not the original intent of these scenario planning tools was not to replace on-the-ground knowledge, but to supplement them, which seems to contradict what was said about the process being proposed.
- Unclear whether Planscape is similar to other decision support tools (e.g., ForSys, Land Tender).
- Concerns were echoed and emphasized during the discussion about whether local knowledge, ground-truthing, and collaboration/communications with local stakeholder groups, like ACCG, will be part of the Resource Kit/Planscape decision making process. Examples of projects (e.g., Bloods Ridge) that were heavily reliant on local knowledge was given. Along those lines was the concern raised that decision support tools are just models and can underestimate areas of concern/high-risk, and where local knowledge is essential for identifying areas missed by models.
- The concern was also raised about the state requiring the use of a specific decision support tool process for projects on federal, non-state-owned lands.
- The issue of funding was also discussed. All agree that block grants are needed to achieve large-landscape projects. CAL FIRE and WCB are ready to provide for block grants. Later this week the SNC will post a pilot block grant program to their website. However, it was also mentioned at the Task Force meeting that to reach the 1 million acres per year target would require much more \$ resources than the state and feds are providing, even in a surplus year. For the YSS collaborative, it's estimated that about \$150-200 million additional dollars are needed for SERAL on top of the \$50 million already received from the infrastructure bill, and that there is about (\$130 million worth of unfunded NEPA-ready projects in the YSS landscape outside of SERAL.
- Participants discussed whether the Toolkit/Planscape should be used for FPP Phase 2, and others remarked that if the Phase 2 team is to apply for state funding to fund the project, then they will probably have to use it. Also briefly discussed the comment Jason made at the meeting about the STF's next large landscape project being on the Hwy 108 south.
- Discussion on local economies and possible increase in taxes to go toward fire suppression. Others suggested that until fire insurance (for many that's through the California Fair Plan) costs decrease it would be a hard sell to private landowners to also pay a higher tax in addition to costly fire insurance.
- Discussion also on development of biomass facilities in the ACCG landscape. Not clear where the Wilseyville project is at. There are three biomass projects brought forward in

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Tuolumne County currently, but funding is a challenge. Improvement of the electrical grid to allow for portable biomass plants that can move in and out of project areas to reduce trucking costs, was also suggested.

Links:

- SN Regional Resource Kit: <https://data.fs.usda.gov/geodata/rastergateway/regional-resource-kit/index.php>
- Planscape: <https://www.planscape.org/home>
- Task Force September 27th webinar: <https://youtu.be/bdXEOjWL3Ns>
- Task Force September 27th agenda: https://wildfiretaskforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/WFR-Task-Force-Agenda-2022092_v11.pdf

Topic action items list:

- **Action item** – John to provide Carinna with Patrick’s contact info to learn more about SNA fellowship program.
- **Action item** – Megan will talk with Michael Pickard about Planscape/SN Resource Toolkit and to get a better understanding of which 3 pillars are available and can be used in Planscape.
- **Action item** – Megan will cross-compare the SLAWG risk assessment HRVAs with the SN resource toolkit pillars – to help the group understand which top 3 pillars for the ACCG
- **Action item** – John will commit for CSERC to reach out to John Battles and others associated with the Resource Kit for answers to some of the questions that have been raised, and I will provide any answers to Megan for her to share.
- **Action item** – instead of having a full discussion at the upcoming October 19th general meeting about the Task Force meeting, the work group agreed to provide the general meeting participants with a debrief on takeaways from the meeting.
- **Action item** – Marcie Powers will inform the ACCG is the CBTSP will have a field day for the public around their scheduled prescribed burning days in November 2022.
- **Action item** – Megan will follow up with Richard Sykes about a socio-economic panel for early 2023 general meeting.

Phase 2 Internal Discussions

Participants reviewed the ongoing internal discussion notes ([meeting supplemental material 05](#)).

Topic action items list:

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- **Action item** – Group agreed to spend a portion of the October 2022 Planning work group meeting defining the “ideal scenario” vs. “What we can live with” vs. “Controversial”, for the various topics listed in the internal discussion notes ([meeting supplemental material 05](#)).

Upcoming General Meeting Topics & Work Group Ongoing Action Item List

- 10/19/2022 - Consensus Item -- ACCG TEK and Tribal Engagement Shared Vision: seeking ACCG support of the 1-page vision statement; debrief on take-aways from CA Wildfire Resilience Task Force Sierra Nevada Region September meeting (including links to toolkit and Planscape)
- 11/16/2022 – (Tentative) **Consensus item** – UMRWA-Amador RD seeking ACCG support for Forest Projects Plan (FPP), Phase 1 draft decision

Participant/Project Updates

Megan -gave the group an update on her conversations with Becky Estes about acquiring specific ENF 2019 LiDAR derived products from R5.

Chuck – 2nd Field Tour of Caldor Fire will be hosted by the ACCG Monitoring And SOFAR. They are currently working on the tour details. Planting willow container stock and willow waddles at Three Meadows project. Also, Chuck’s crew is currently out with botany crew all week on conifer removal, aspen planting, and sedge planting on Foster Meadow project.

John – Columbia College (and SBC and Motherlode Job Training) is working with a variety of interest in developing workforce development program to try and build a heavy equipment training program. Takes 6 months to a year for the training program. Fall 2023 the program will start hopefully. Note: roughly 50% of SERAL contracts are out of state.

Rich – UMRWA board meeting Friday Oct 7th at 10am in-person at Pardee Reservoir.

Next Planning WG meeting is Wed., October 26th, 2022 via Zoom.

Meeting Participants

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#	Name	Affiliation	Miles (N/A-online)	Hours
1	Megan Layhee	ACCG Administrator (facilitator)	--	3.0
2	Manny Eicholz	CSERC	--	3.0
3	Rich Farrington	UMRWA Board	--	3.0
4	Chuck Loffland	ENF, Amador RD	--	3.0
5	Terry Woodrow	CFSC, Alpine Co. BOS, UMRWA Board	--	1.5
6	Marcie Powers	CBT Association	--	3.0
7	Tatiana	CSERC	--	3.0
8	Thurman Roberts	CHIPS	--	0.5
9	Craig Case	CHIPS	--	1.0
10	John Buckley	CSERC	--	3.0
11	Carinna Robertson	STF, Calaveras RD	--	3.0
12	Chuck Beckman	EBMUD	--	2.0