**ACCG Monitoring Group**

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

8:56 AM

**Date/Time**: January 11 2023, Wednesday 900-1100

**Attendees:** Becky Estes, Helen Loffland, Linda Diesem, Zachary Croyle, Chuck Loffland

**Review of Participation in ACCG Monitoring Workgroup/Housekeeping**

* Participation amongst the group has been consistent and I really appreciate it!
* What groups are not involved in the Monitoring Workgroup?
  + ACCG Full Group Participation - not having in person meetings may be resulting in declining participation but it would be good to check in with the full group to see if there are other entities not represented
  + We will have a participant from Foothill Conservancy so w should continue to keep that on our list

 In person meeting/Virtual Meetings

* We will continue virtual meetings but think about focused meetings on specific topics and field work such as Thompson or other monitoring work
* Maybe for focused meetings we would get together in person but we would need to think of a central meeting location – we used to meet at the County Health Building but this might not be as great of a meeting location

**Caldor Fire Field Tour**

* Think about rescheduling of the field tour but likely not until we know more about the weather and the road conditions
* Think about restructuring the tour based on whether we have a proposed action out
* Review the poll before the next meeting to get a reminder on what the group in interested in – this may have changed or developed more since the last time we talked
* Make sure to loop in the CFSC in some capacity – perhaps it would be good to start talking with them now
* GTR 270 analysis - share this through some avenue - presentation was actually on the GTR to the collaboratives
* Set aside some time at the next monitoring meeting to expose the group to the material so we can figure out how we would like to move this forward
* Presentation was completed on the GTR 270 but not on the specific analysis on the Caldor Fire

**Goals 2022 and Setting 2023 Goals**

Landscape Analysis

* Perhaps think about what questions are in our strategy that might be answered through a landscape analysis and to help us understand how this could help the ACCG (implementation, effectiveness monitoring)
* How does Planscape fit into this process - how would we loop this in or use this as a way to complete a landscape scale analysis
* Pat is on the science technical advisory panel for the Phase 2 project so might be good to get her thoughts on this process
* Maybe loop in with Megan to decide how to use this product - also ask Michele Slaton about this at MARS (Mapping and Remote Sensing Group) to plan a path forward
* Insight on the work that SOFAR has been completing using the Blueprint/Planscape on the two focused watersheds – this is more for planning but should be thinking about how it can be used for monitoring

 Review the 2022 Goals Carryover and New 2023 Goals

* These are located in the 2023 document

**Ongoing Monitoring Projects**

Updated spreadsheet with 2023 Monitoring Goals – need to monitor all plots within ACCG whether treated or not

Phase 1 and 2 Projects

* Most of the Phase 1 monitoring work was just efficacy monitoring since it was mostly fuel reduction work
* Overlap from Phase 1 from Chips project was dropped – there might be some opportunity to pick these back up in Phase 2 to complete this monitoring
* Will some of the units in Power be treated? Need to make sure we update this in our monitoring list for this year
* Look at monitoring for the Phase 1 work - what does this look like - does this tie into the ACCG monitoring workgroup
* Will come back to this group on this work

Thompson

* Look at plots data/transects to see how much were treated but since linear transects it is likely that some portion of the meadow was treated
* Close to the road and private property wasn't treated - drier meadow that wasn't treated and had conifer overgrowth – need to see where this is in implementation
* Look at these areas and others that weren’t completed to get picked up for Phase 2 work
* This could be done as a citizen science day or as a working group activity this field season

Aspen Work

* Often we don't treat the non-commercial locations - think about why we don't do this?
* With others that are managing these contracts might get more done on these projects now from a fuels and wildlife perspective

Cabbage/Hemlock

* Hazard tree sale along the main road for all the white fir dieback
* Check on location of plots for this work
* This might affect both plots mixed conifer and red fir

Aspen Delineation

* WCB grant/UMWRA project
* Prioritization model - assessment and location for this work has been completed by NYP so need to determine if we want to use any of their work

**January Task List:**

All

* Determine a way to engage with the full ACCG Group since it has been some time – presentation, update, etc.
* Review 2022 Goals and make any changes in preparation for setting our 2023 Goals

Becky

* Housekeeping for the meetings - change the Teams meeting to admit people - remove permissions (done)
* Revisit membership and participation
* Revisit calendar invite (done)
* Sort out topics and scheduling for 2023 meetings (done)
* Reach out to Megan and Sue (admin groups) to see how we want to ask Sue about GTR 270 Caldor
* Reach out to Sue on the SOFAR group on their interest in GTR 270 Caldor presentations and the format for this
* Redo the 2023 Goals and Objectives
* Think about the spatial database for ACCG
* Overlap the HRV work and the AGGC and determine interest in workshop or presentation on this work
* Set up time at Feb/March WG meeting to give a general presentation on the GTR 270 analysis for Caldor so we can figure out how to broaden the audience on this work

Chuck

* Ask the full group during the monitoring workgroup report out whether additional participation in the monitoring workgroup is necessary and level of interest in GTR 270 Caldor presentation
* Tie in with engineering on the road conditions before the Caldor Field Tour
* Check on Panther treatments and share the locations
* Connect with UMWRA on monitoring piece

**Carryover Task List from 2022**

Caldor Field Tour (hold for later this Spring)

* Think about rescheduling for the Spring
* Check in with engineering to determine road conditions
* Review Caldor Field Trip stop locations and determine relevant speakers for each topic
* Complete all tasks for finalizing Caldor field tour
* Review the Management Recommendations and the Field Trip Notes and provide feedback
* Review Caldor Field Trip stop locations and determine relevant speakers for each topi
* Loop in CFSC and circulate the advertisement for the Caldor Fire tour
* Get support from the Eldorado FLT for a field tour on the Caldor Fire (this might have to happen again since we will have new leadership)
* ACCG Participation on Caldor – encourage participation

Becky

* Redo the transects aspen in Martin Meadows and the rest of the Caples – quantify browse pressure in these areas (working with Chuck on this)
* Summarize Long Fire data – is this something that Saba could tackle
* Summarize Caldor field tour summaries with Derek
* Summarize Foster Firs Data (Becky W. will complete this task)

Chuck

* Three Meadows monitoring (2023)
* Touch base with UMWRA to determine level of interest in helping us address Goals 2 and 3

Gwen

* + Follow up on Three Meadows project
* Monitoring this field season based on additional funding – this could be a group activity for us
* Analyze the conifer removal data including all meadows – determine who would be point of contact for this
* Complete Climate Engine Analysis

**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

**Megan**

* Create a cheatsheet for Google Awesome Tables
* Did our website updates ever go live?

**Future Agenda Topics**

1. Review and summarize assessments that have been completed for Caldor
2. Review status of monitoring projects in database and create 2022 report
3. Helen to present approach to aspen monitoring; invite others to this meeting
4. Continue planning for Caldor Tour (e.g., adding topics like meadows with Karen Pope’s information)
5. Review map of Karen Pope’s meadow model for Caldor area and discuss at a monitoring meeting how to use this to assess meadows and aspen
6. Landscape scale monitoring – RSL/MARS is willing to help us evaluate a landscape to evaluate treatment effectiveness by pulling information together; Chuck suggests submitting Phase II as a project for evaluation
7. 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) a. Think about how we can use the LiDAR as a monitoring tool and start looking at outputs b. 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)
8. Need to address monitoring in plantations both the variable density PCG and the variable density planting – will we continue this
9. Monitoring Strategy - review the strategy and see if there is something else we might need to pursue (ongoing) a. Track key issues and make sure we are monitoring them

b. Is there any new information gained that can be applied to management?

9. CA Forest Observatory – could be a good topic for our group (this might be a great SLAWG topic as well)

11. Summarizing data now that we have data – what projects need a report out? a. discuss how information is being presented/translated and if we can improve that

12. 2023 symposium to cover monitoring projects on the Stanislaus

13. Meadow monitoring protocol comparison, Kyle– field visit of monitoring workgroup for late summer

14. Short presentation to appropriate audience re: need for monitoring funds post-project (up to 10 years post).