

# Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Brief Summary 03/15/2023, via Zoom and at the Calaveras RD Office

## Meeting Brief

- Meeting facilitator: Michael Pickard
- Consensus item – New ACCG Member, Krempl Consulting
- Consensus item – ACCG LOS for Krempl Consulting’s CAL FIRE Business and Workforce Development Program application for A Market Analysis of Fuels Reduction Treatments in the Sierra Nevada
- Brief update and discussion on ACCG 5-year Strategic Plan update
- Informational project update: Forest Projects Plan (FPP) Phase 1 & 2
- Roundtable updates and Work group updates.

## Action Items

Actions	Responsible Parties
Post final version of meeting agenda and last month’s meeting summary to the ACCG website.	Layhee
Continue to draft the updated 5-year strategic plan based on feedback received at the meeting.	Admin work group
Update the Member list on the website and file Krempl’s MOA signature letter into the Admin file	Layhee
Finalize and sign the LOS and send it on to Byron	Layhee
Send Forestry Corps training info to Layhee.	Emily Graham
Follow up with Rosie to set up presentation at future general meeting	Layhee

## Summary

### Modification and/or approval of agenda and last month’s meeting summary.

There were no suggested modifications to the agenda. One minor modification was made to last month’s meeting summary – the spelling of CSERC’s new staff member last name. Megan will post final versions of these documents on the website and remove the “DRAFT” watermark before doing so.

## Presentations & Discussions

### New ACCG Member – Krempl Consulting

Members unanimously voted in favor of accepting Krempl Consulting (Byron Krempl) as a new member of the ACCG and signatory of the revised MOA.

**Action item:** Megan will update the Member list on the website and file Krempl’s MOA signature letter into the Admin file.

# Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Brief Summary 03/15/2023, via Zoom and at the Calaveras RD Office

## ACCG LOS for Krempl Consulting CAL FIRE grant application for conducting a Market Analysis

Members unanimously voted in favor of providing Krempl Consulting (Byron Krempl) with a letter of support for the grant application to CAL FIRE Business and Workforce Development Program for A Market Analysis of Fuels Reduction Treatments in the Sierra Nevada, focusing on Fuels Reduction Costs. See meeting supplemental materials [04](#) and [05](#) for more details about the project.

A few project-related questions were asked:

- (1) **Is this a living document? For example, would the contractor list be an active database that would change and be up to date month to month, year to year?** Byron said yes, there will be a database with the quantitative components and an organization can take that databases and update it internally in the long term, or if funded Byron could update it in the long term.
- (2) **Is on of the project deliverables a paper?** Yes, county by county document and narrative
- (3) **Are you only focusing on public dollars for fuels projects?** Yes, for now, majority will be public funds. Would be interested in more, put private companies might not have public ally available information.
- (4) **How do you collect the data?** Email and telephone calls to each county and have them send the documents, and Byron will extract the data from the documents sent to him. Limitations - is who is willing to participate or who doesn't have information (e.g., sealed bids) - its a survey, and only as good as the data that is collected.
- (5) **What is the timeline?** - 1.5 years, (collect last 7 years for analysis). Real-time feedback as well as the conclusion.
- (6) **How are you going to normalize the data? (e.g., make certain counties can compare apples to apples, given the fact that projects have different prescriptions, prevailing wages, some are expected to accept low bids).** Byron mentioned that this is another limitation of the quantitative analysis. Can get the range and change over time in the past and future, that is where the qualitative analysis will come into play for the apples to oranges cases and looking at a county-by-county basis analyses, and the best way to overcome the apples to oranges component of the projects. The group viewed the graph within the SOW document, the nuisances within a given county would be addressed in the county-level analysis.
- (7) **Asked why just fuels reduction?** Idea is to start there, may do further analyses with additional funding.
- (8) **Are you prioritizing certain counties?** No, plan is to reach out to each county at the same time to get the data and haven't been looking at it from a prioritization.

CA Big Trees Association offered to provide a LOS for the grant app and CHIPS offered to provide Byron with data for the analyses. Several requests were made as well including:

- (1) provide a brief written synopsis on completion of the analysis that summarizes the analysis outcomes that are specific to the ACCG,
- (2) present to ACCG on findings at a general meeting upon completion of the work, and
- (3) provide updates on the project in the next year to the ACCG.

# Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Brief Summary 03/15/2023, via Zoom and at the Calaveras RD Office

One minor modification was made to the LOS during the meeting, otherwise accepted.

## Action item:

- Megan will finalize and sign the LOS and send it on to Byron.

## ACCG 5-Year Strategic Plan

Presenters: Michael Pickard

Michael went into an introduction of the sunseting strategic plan. The Admin work group's plan is to hear any initial comments and get folks to start thinking about the plan. It was noted that the Admin work group agrees it a long document and the work group would like to streamline the document by trimming the fat to only include the goals (and supplement document as action plan, or alternatively use the annual priorities list as the action plan).

The meeting participants agreed to have the Admin work group revise the plan to be a shorter, more streamlined document that only includes the high-level goals (not objectives and details that are included in the annual priorities list), and to also trim the goals down to just include goal 1 and goal 3 and to incorporate engagement in goal 1 by revising goal 1 to read, "Forum and engagement/involvement".

The Admin work group's intent is to have a suggested revise for the new draft in early fall and then finalize by November general meeting. The revised plan would start in 2024.

## Action item:

- Admin work group will prioritize revising the strategic plan based on the feedback received during the meeting.

## Forest Projects Plan (FPP) Phase 1 and Phase 2 Update

Presenters: Richard Sykes

FPP Phase 1 - since last month, finished sequencing plan for Phase 1 and helpful for. Hopeful to do first 2K acres later this year funded by CAL FIRE, and have RFP out now for botanical surveys for the project, dependent on snow. RFPs for contractors to implement is hoping for late spring and begin implementation later this summer, this schedule might be delayed to snow and access. At the end of Feb UMRWA submitted a CAL FIRE grant app for implementation. And possible I lock grant for 10 million most toward Phase 1 implementation, not heard back yet and most likely not for a few more weeks.

# Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Brief Summary 03/15/2023, via Zoom and at the Calaveras RD Office

Phase 2 - continuing to do planning, continuing to acquire data, working with a couple entities for presentations at general meetings on models in April and May. First stakeholder meeting in Feb, first TAG meeting in early April. Did not get the SNC planning grant that they applied for in fall 2022, however, had a couple suggestions for bolstering and making more competitive and resubmit in the next SNC grant. In the new CAL FIRE grant app just submitted, a small portion will be set aside from Phase 2. Karen had a good conversation with SNC about possible Phase 2 funding.

Questions/feedback:

- (1) The potential \$10 million block grant from SNC, what it would be for? Phase 1 implementation, but did request 10% of the block grant be used for Phase 2 planning and they agreed to that.
- (2) Passing along contact info to Richard of the Boy Scout Camp. John H. will send their contact info to Richard.

## UPDATES

### Roundtable

- Chuck - a lot of snow; new Amador District Ranger, Linda Helm, and new Forest Supervisor, Joe Stout, are on next month's general meeting.
  - Michael asked if there were a lot of rain damage. Chuck responded that downstream of FS lands, snow line stays high then well start seeing some road issues on the FS roads.
- Marcie Powers - SNC has approved the McKays Project, park has a town hall meeting on forest management. Rich asked if the town hall meeting is being recorded - Marcie will follow up.
- Emily - training program at Columbia College for natural resources sectors, will have heavy equipment at Sierra resources Management - housing will be provided at dorms. 12-week program, in response to industry, integrated fuels management, fire fighter. Multiple phases. Emily will send me the flyer when they have completed it. Most likely summer 2023.
  - Sue asked about the prevailing wage earlier discussion and how that will be incorporated into the program – Emily responded that the higher wages is built into the work experience component.
  - John B. added a bit more context, including mentioning that about a year or so, YSS met with Tom Hofstra at the college and industry folks, who said that what they need is a higher level of training for heavy equipment operations. Idea is the college can have students train under a master operator and train to a level where they can be hired for heavy equipment operation. Chris Trott and Stan Dodson are involved in this process, as well.
- Gordon – NRCS just hired new District Conservationists for the tri-county, Jennifer Wood, going to be a great resource. Might want to engage more with the ACCG. Calaveras Co. RCD just hired another employee, Admin Assistant. Calaveras High School - CAL FIRE grant to do campus work with their forestry class. CA RCD conservation regional partnership grant, get NRCS funding for small landowners with bark beetles, new funding will address bark beetle and fire prevention. Landowners contact RCD or NRCS to apply for the project. Sept-Nov timeline will be online.
  - Rich asked if Jennifer might give the ACCG a presentation on the program.

# Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Brief Summary 03/15/2023, via Zoom and at the Calaveras RD Office

- John H. - today is due date for CAL FIRE Fire Prevention grants - AFSC submitted grant for a couple of community FBs in Amador Co (1) Volcano and stretch to Pioneer, and (2) Jackson and Sutter Creek area. Amador RCD submitted a grant to CAL FIRE for defensible space work a round homes low-income/disabled communities 1.3 million.
  - John B. asked John about the process to obtain permission from property owners to do work and who is doing all of that. The Tuolumne FSC struggles with connecting with property owners. John H. responded that the FSC asks communities themselves to put in request for FBs, and are then prioritized if neighbors already have ROEs in place. Homeowners Associations and road associations make it easier. Noted that Rich Farrington has been really helpful in getting this done.
- Craig Case - CHIPS is busy, including 6 ranger district jobs, 5 smaller jobs, and work in the giant sequoia groves in Porterville in Sequoia National Monument project will be starting up soon.
- Kimberley - on behalf of consumes culture waterways [http://www.ccaww.org/about\\_us](http://www.ccaww.org/about_us)- American River conservancy will sign over 300+ acres back to the tribe. Sue H. - asked for more information about this process lands. Michael - When that transfer happens - give ACCG a presentation on how it went. Kimberley put her info in the chat.
- Gerald Schwartz - releasing 350 cfs from Camanche. March 30th is his last day.
- Jim Suero - CBTSP full crew is returning in April, hit pile burning hard at Indian Rock in Columbia, spring understory burns planned at west Moran unit and around maintenance buildings. Will make sure they record the town hall meeting.
- Rosie - based out of Auburn and are the Private Lands Biologist and a cost-share program and use their funds as match for grants, not a huge funding opportunity \$25K. Will add that handout and info in chat.
- Carinna - most crews are working over on the SERAL project in lower elevations. Forest-wide Hazard Tree NEPA determination of NEPA adequacy (first project using this for), scoping/comment period most likely in a couple of weeks.
  - John B. mentioned that on the SOPA page is not linking to the project page.
  - Lin to project page: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63553>
- Ray - district level, lots of snow and 6 ft of snow in Dorrington building, not sure what alpine station looks like. As soon as conditions allowed, will do some snow patrolling, hopefully in next couple of weeks. Till melt out, they'll assess damage.
- Megan – informed the group the

Ran out of time to go through the work group updates. Facilitator referred folks to the work group summaries attached as supplemental materials to the agenda packet to learn more. Next meeting is April 19th, 2023, more info to come, since Megan will be on vacation.

## Meeting Participants

Count	Name	Affiliation	Meeting Time
1	Megan Layhee	ACCG Administrator (in person)	2.33
2	Michael Pickard	SNC (in person)	2.33
3	John Heissenbuttel	Cal Am Team, Heissenbuttel Natural Resource Consulting	2.33
4	Byron Krempf	Krempf Consulting (in person)	2.33

## Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Brief Summary 03/15/2023, via Zoom and at the Calaveras RD Office

5	Rich Farrington	UMRWA Board	2.33
6	Chuck Loffland	ENF, Amador RD	2.33
7	Linda Diesem	Private citizen	2.33
8	Carinna Robertson	USFS, STF, Calaveras RD (in person)	2.33
9	Gerald Schwartz	EBMUD	2.33
10	Sue Holper	Private citizen	2.33
11	Gordon Long	Calaveras Co. RCD	2.33
12	Richard Sykes	UMRWA	2.33
13	Stan Dodson	CSERC (in person)	2.33
14	John Buckley	CSERC (in person)	2.33
15	Ray Cablayan	USFS, STF, Calaveras RD (in person)	2.33
16	Brian Brown	USFS, ENF	2.33
17	Kimberley Petree	El Dorado Band of Miwok Chairwoman, Executive Director of CCAWW	2.33
18	Craig Case	CHIPS	2.33
19	Rosie Gonzales	USFWS Private Land Biologist	2.33
20	Jim Suero	CA Big Trees State Park	2.33
21	Marcie Powers	CA Big Trees Association	2.33
22	Scott Sweimers	EBMUD	2.33
23	Emily Graham	Mother Lode Job Training	2.33