

Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Brief Summary 08/16/2023, via Zoom and at the Calaveras RD Office

Meeting Brief

- Meeting facilitator: Michael Pickard
- Meeting host: Lisa Lucke
- Guest Presentation: Rob Lawson, et al., Planscape
- Consensus item: revised SWOT Analysis (approved)
- Roundtable and Work group updates.

Action Items

Actions	Responsible Parties
Post final version of 8/16 GM agenda and final summary of July 26 GM to the ACCG website.	Lucke
Complete edits to SWOT Analysis	Lucke
Upload Planscape presentation slides to website	Lucke

Summary

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

The meeting's agenda and the July GM summary was approved and will be finalized and added to the website.

Presentations & Discussions

Planscape

Presenters: Rob Lawson and team: Carrie Levine, Jason Moghaddas, Nick Povak, Shane Rosmos, Taro Pusino

- Rob Lawson led a presentation on Planscape, with the FPP Phase 2 team providing additional information.
- The Planscape team discussed the development of Planscape, a software tool aimed at collaborating and efficiently restoring forests to a more natural state, reducing wildfires, and achieving ecological goals. They focused on creating a decision support tool that provides access to data, helps make informed decisions, and supports collaboration among stakeholders at a regional or landscape scale.
- The team discussed the features of Planscape, such as map views, different data layers, and the ability to drill down into specific metrics.
- John, Rob, Carrie, Sue, Carinna, and others discussed the pixelation issue in the displayed map and the suitability of the habitat for owls. Carrie explained that the

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pixelation was due to the use of three-meter pixels, which provided a broader overview of habitat suitability rather than specific details for planning treatments.

- Carrie, Sue, Rob, Richard, Nick, and John Buckley discussed the need for written documentation on vegetation data and the future integration of climate change scenarios into the Planscape tool. They also raised questions about the accuracy of the data and the level of accuracy expected for the overall outputs of the tool.
- Jason and Carrie discussed the limitations and challenges of using models and data analysis in predicting future outcomes for forest management. They emphasized the importance of expert opinion, critical thinking, user feedback, and considering uncertainties in the context of the landscape when making decisions based on the models.
- They also mentioned the possibility of grant-giving organizations considering projects that utilize this tool in the future, although its use is not currently mandated by the state.
- Carrie discussed the timing and priorities for adding additional information to the software tool. They emphasized the importance of user needs and the role of a go-between like Pete to ensure that the tool reflects the planning objectives and analysis requirements.
- The group discussed the usefulness of a model for evaluating different treatment alternatives and intensities. They emphasized that while the model can provide trends and insights, the final decision-making should involve the team and stakeholders, taking into account their expertise and priorities.
- In the discussion, Jason emphasized the importance of taking action to prevent future losses in post-fire situations. The capability of the system to integrate local data and weight variables, was discussed and Nick mentioned that the model was designed to consider current conditions and future climate stability to determine different management solutions for different areas.
- **Action item:** Lisa will upload a presentation to the website, which Rob agreed to.

Consensus Item

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ACCG revised SWOT Analysis

- Richard reminded the group that the SWOT Analysis being reviewed today will not be a component of the updated 5YSP, but instead a standalone doc, since the goals of the 5YSP are in part based on the SWOT Analysis; so the 5YSP will be presented at the next GM in Sept.
- John H. mentioned the need to spell out the acronyms, such as SNF.
- Michelle discussed the wording of one of the threats and with John B and others it was adjusted.
- **Action Item:** Lisa will finalize edits to the SWOT Analysis.

UPDATES

Roundtable

- Starting with the online attendees, John B. had nothing to share.
- Richard Sykes stated that UMRWA will have a special board meeting in two weeks to consider staff recommendation award and contract for 2,200 acres. They had 8 bids, two of which were within the grant budget and six over. Richard also said Cal Fire just gave them the draft agreement for the second grant, which would be about 3,100 acres for lateral fuel and thinning work.
- John Heissenbuttel shared that Amador Fire Safe Council is about to put out to bid a re-do on the Pine Acres fuel break, which he noted is what stopped the Butte Fire from climbing over that canyon and into Amador County.
- Regine asked John H. about Fire Safe Council's updating the CWPP and John gave an update on that grant, which was approved for modification. Regine also pointed out that it's important for our Forest Projects Plan phase 1 and 2 to get into that CWPP because currently it's not. Regine also updated on the Aspen Inventory and Assessment and Environmental Planning Project, and that Helen and her crew have been busy. As of the end of July, they had inventoried more than 40 additional stands for a total of 478 acres, conducted more than 25 point count surveys for birds, and for bumblebees.
- Ray Cablayan said forest-wide fire activities are picking up and they are still trying to hire people.
- Carinna shared on the 20 bids received for the project (couldn't translate) and various projects and bids related to fire prevention and forest conservation.
- Updates on various projects and activities, including forest-wide fire activities, bidding for a project, updates on the National Forest Foundation, and upcoming stakeholder meetings.

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Work Group Updates

Admin Work Group: Richard mentioned that the Admin Work Group was close to completing the strategic plan draft, with a focus on editing and making it more concise. Lisa provided assistance in cleaning it up. They also discussed updates on the Admin Work Group's communication and outreach plan.

Planning Work Group: Chuck L. said the group talked about the Phase 2 project, you've already found the Forest Leadership Meeting, there is a [inaudible] being circulated, at least on the Eldorado side, and I expect it will be coming back over to Stanislaus once Susan Durham gets done with it, she's handling the [inaudible] on our side, [inaudible] is a project initiation letter.

Next ACCG General Meeting: September 20, 2023 – Zoom and in person at Amador RD office

Meeting Participants

Name	Affiliation
Lisa Lucke	ACCG Admin
Carinna Robertson	USFS
Nick Povak	USDA
Jason Moghaddas (Kaash)	Spatial Informatics Group/Planscape
John Heissenbuttel	Amador Fire Safe Council
Ray Cablayan	USFS
Richard Sykes	UMRWA
Sue Britting	Sierra Forest Legacy
Taro Pusina	Spatial Informatics Group/Planscape
Chuck Beckman	EBMUD
Shane Romsos	Spatial Informatics Group/Planscape
Michelle Wolfgang	USFS ENF
Regine Miller	UMRWA
John Buckley	CSERC
Zach Browning	Sierra Institute
Carrie Levine	Spatial Informatics Group/Planscape
Corinne Munger	Stantec
Rob Lawson	Spatial Informatics Group/Planscape (presenter)
Rosie Gonzalez	?
Michael Pickard	Sierra Nevada Alliance
Chuck Loffland	USDA
Katie Ross-Smith	Stantec
Colleen Shade	Stantec