# **Meeting Brief**

* Meeting facilitator: Megan Layhee
* Meeting host: Lisa Lucke
* Guest Presentation: Garrett Dickman, forest ecologist for Yosemite Nat’l. Park
* Consensus item: ACCG 2024 Priorities (approved)
* Roundtable and Work group updates.

# **Action Items**

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| **Actions** | **Responsible Parties** |
| Post final version of 1/7/24 GM agenda and final summary of Nov 2023 GM to the ACCG website. | Lucke |
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**Summary**

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

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

**Presentations & Discussions**

1. Garrett Dickman: “How managing a forest impacts wildfire effects, Washburn Fire as a case study”

Key takeaways:

* Importance of fire in maintaining the ecosystem of the Sierra Nevada by acting as a recycling mechanism, clearing away dead organic matter and allowing for new growth.
* Regular fires prevent buildup of non-native species and keep fuel loads low.
* Absence of regular burning leads to increased competition for water, adding to trees’ vulnerability to insect attacks
* Regular, controlled fires are vital to maintaining healthy and resilient ecosystems
* Impact of climate change in Yosemite Nat’l. Forest has led to loss of meadows and wetlands due to increased forest density and decreased water availability.
* Important to prepare for fires in advance; reacting to fires is more costly and less effective.
1. **2024 ACCG Priorities (consensus item, accepted)**
2. **Forest Project Plan Phases 1 and 2 update, including Phase 2 P&N development update**

**UPDATES**

**Roundtable Updates:**

**Admin Work Group update:** Working on website issues solution

**Planning Work Group update/Forest Plan Amendment Ad Hoc Group Update:** Will discuss timing and location of surveys for the FPP Phase 2 project at their next meeting. Ad Hoc group will continue discussing the ACCG monitoring strategy and potential updates for the future.

**Monitoring Work Group update:** Will work on a concept proposal for a research grant application by 1/31, aiming to request just under $250k.

**Next ACCG General Meeting: Feb. 21, 2024 – Zoom and in person at Calaveras RD office**

# **Meeting Participants**

**Name, Affiliation**

Lisa Lucke, ACCG Admin

John Heissenbuttel, Amador Fire Safe Council

Ray Cablayan, USFS

Richard Sykes, UMRWA

Tom Hofstra

Sue Holper, private citizen

Craig Case, CHIPS

J Kuiken, USFS, STF

Garrett Dickman, USFS Yosemite Nat’l. Forest (presenter)

John Buckley, CSERC

Zach Browning, Sierra Institute

Michael Pickard, Sierra Nevada Alliance

Chuck Loffland, USDA

Stan Dodson, CSERC

Allison Stevnot, USFS

Megan Layhee, UMRWA

Katie W.

Linda Diesem, private landowner