ACCG February Monitoring Meeting

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

2:54 PM

Attendees: Megan Layhee, Chuck Loffland, Zac Croyle, Becky Estes, Linda Diesem

Stephaine Coppeto (guest)

**MEETING MATERIALS**

All materials including the meeting recordings are stored on box. If you need help finding something let Becky know. Box link: <https://usfs.box.com/s/u8kn1rzklivkdfpcpaw89csrsul6caug>

**MEETING AGENDA**

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| **TIME** | **AGENDA ITEM** | **PRESENTER(S)** |
| 9:00 | **Introductions/Ice Breaker/Agenda Review**   * + *Identify note taker*   + Review agenda – any additional topics for today   + Record meetings – would this be helpful   + Next meeting – March 13 2024 | **All** |
| 9:15 | **R5 Forest Service Broader-scale Monitoring Plan & CNRA Monitoring**   * + Overview of the Forest Service Broader Scale Monitoring Plan   + Overview of CNRA Monitoring   + How can we utilize these efforts to support our monitoring planning? | **Stephanie Coppeto, Regional Monitoring Coordinator** |
| 9:45 | **Phase I and II Monitoring**   * + Updates on monitoring efforts     - Draft FPP monitoring program and draft monitoring scope of work (attached in email and on Box here ( <https://usfs.box.com/s/5b73jea65ex36u3ie2aq75p157p062x2>)     - CAL FIRE Forest Health Research Grant Pre-Proposal     - Other Updates or Next Steps | **Megan and Richard** |
| 10:00 | **Review Monitoring Guidance**   * + Review ACCG monitoring plan ( <https://acconsensus.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/01_Cornerstone_Monitoring_Strategy_Final.pdf)&> CFLR monitoring guidance ( <https://www.fs.usda.gov/restoration/documents/cflrp/CMS-Fact-Sheet-final-20221013.pdf> & <https://www.fs.usda.gov/restoration/documents/cflrp/CFLRP_monitoring_questions_core_indicators_20201214.pdf>) | **All** |
| 10:45 | **Meeting Maintenance**   * + In person meeting: Topics to discuss in person (brainstorming), timing and location   + Review meeting membership | **Becky** |
| 10:50 | **Task List, Round Robin, Closeout, Next Meeting** | **All** |

**R5 Forest Service Broader-scale Monitoring Plan & CNRA Monitoring**

* Region 5 has one of the two broader scale (regional) strategies in place that is currently being monitoring.
* Creating a platform for interacting with the data though a website and Experience Builder (AGOL)
* There is also interpretation and analysis that needs to happen which is accomplished by subject matter experts that provide context and information.
* Helps inform the forest plan monitoring and regional/provincial monitoring.
* Covers trends across the Region.
* Some questions don't have interactive data so there is static information presented here.
* Some questions have trend data that is interactive and can be viewed at different scales.
* Activities/Implementation Monitoring Question - For the activities (FACTS) you can look at just one activity by clicking off the activity in the figure. You can look at specific fires as related to the activity layer.
* The ecosystem services and socioeconomic layers – could potentially be used to address Mature Old Growth and ecosystem services. The socioeconomic layers can be viewed by county which could be very useful for ACCG. Check the counties and socioeconomics summaries.
* Insect and Disease is Interactive as well.
* Carbon Question - Carbon Tableau from the WO
* Priority landscapes - already have a dashboard that is accessible. There is no interface for CFLR projects or for those not associated with a particular effort.
* Any FPP/ACCG questions that align with broader scale strategy monitoring could be run for our process (pilot this effort)? Two options - RO Running or us Running (Stephanie will check on this and Becky will follow up)
* Public Viewing - roll out in April
* Cultural Resources Questions - might need to revisit this for the monitoring strategies - share this with Stephanie - uncertainties on how we monitor this.
* Look at Sequoia and Sierra NF plan monitoring for questions that might be important for FPP projects.
* Might not cover the private lands included in FPP Projects.
* Amphibians will come in spring and summer.
* Forest vegetation is still up and coming.
* Meadow condition - this is going to be and up and coming but should be available soon.
* When this rolls out could we get a presentation to the ACCG full group or the FPP group?

**Phase I and II Monitoring**

* CalFire grant pre-proposal was submitted and we should know early March if we are invited to submit a full proposal
* Monitoring Coordinator update to SNC - RFFCP Program
  + Was acquired for Round 1 and Round 2 and reached out for Round 3
  + We identified funding for monitoring coordinator
  + Around April agreement for funding ($87K)
    - Timeframe for this person - March (hiring panel, drafting documents, we will start this discussion at the next meeting in March)
* Process for Monitoring
* If we use CBD then it should be in the NEPA document
* Adaptative Management

**Membership – groups that should have representation on this group**

* TAG membership
* Additional ACCG membership
* Crossover between ACCG and UMWRA
* Membership Drive
* SFL, Foothill Conservancy, CSERC - maybe one representative that can attend each meeting so we have enough participation on the working group

**Review Monitoring Guidance**

* Compilation of all California monitoring efforts
  + Region 5 Forest Service Broader Scale Monitoring
  + TCSI Monitoring/Indicators
  + Regional Resource Kits Metrics/Indicators (not a monitoring strategy but the framework for resilience)
  + CFLR Monitoring Guidance
  + WRIIT Monitoring Guidance WO (not complete)
  + WRIIT Monitoring Guidance R5 (not complete)
  + Historic Range of Variability Modeling (only TCSI)
  + **Is there any guidance that we are missing?**
* Compilation of all existing monitoring strategies within the Central Sierra
  + ACCG (implemented)
  + LTW (not implemented)
  + NYP (not complete)
  + **Are there any monitoring strategies that we are missing?**

**Steps to Update ACCG Monitoring Strategy (we might put a pin in this until the new coordinator comes on):**

1. Review current ACCG questions and update based on new and innovative metrics and indicators.
   1. This can be accomplished by looking at pillars, elements and metrics in the pillars for resilience.
2. Add questions that we feel better address our current needs in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 project.
3. Flesh out the details for each question - question, rationale, approach, prioritization, lead party, scale, threshold/triggers, indicators, timing, data sources, data analysis, funding (smaller groups for each question)
4. Evaluate current monitoring projects for application in new strategy

**CSO Monitoring**

* There is a lot happening across the region that we might want to visit with the TAG team on what we could potentially utilize for our monitoring efforts

**Task Lists:**

**All:**

* Review crosswalk of ACCG, CFLRP, and bioregional monitoring to be created by Becky for discussions in January. Also consider what of these questions are relevant to FPP and where they might be gaps (see attached and more discussion to happen at March and future meetings)

**Becky:**

* Need to review attendee list and determine whether other organizations need to be added to this process especially considering the expansion into the FPP monitoring work What does the HELP group cover? Could we pull any of them into the FPP work? Are there ways that we could capitalize on their efforts or make sure we aren’t duplicating efforts?
* Think about how to pull from the Broader Scale Monitoring as a pilot for the FPP work? (done) Yes. We could be a pilot.
* Forest plots/RRK data validation
* Development and review of monitoring coordinator roles – review at March meeting
* Share plot data for Bummervuille area with Helen for the GGO monitoring project (did I ever do this?)
* Gather spatial data for new ARCGIS website hosted by Forest Service and give Megan access; consider adding activity database from SLAWG to new site along with monitoring data (ongoing – might be presented at January meeting)
* Get Lost Meadows data loading for Stanislaus NF (in progress - reached out to Adam since the predictions on server were only for one probability) (the link was shared but did this fill our needs)
* Check in with CFLR contact to ask about the need to add new monitoring question to the 15-year report

**Megan:**

* ACCG Full Group Meeting presentation of the broader scale monitoring strategy (future topic – April)
* Will give report out at the ACCG Full Group and will ask for participation in monitoring group (done)
* Work on AGOL Spatial Data for ACCG (ongoing)

**Helen:**

* Provide summary of monitoring accomplishments from 2023 season at a future meeting
* Work with Becky to determine if we should apply for grant funding from Sierra Meadows Partnership to cover data analysis for unmet needs