

# Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG)

General Meeting Summary 5/15/2024, via Zoom and at Calaveras RD Office

## Meeting Brief

- Meeting facilitator: Chuck Loffland
- ACCG Administration Interim Team Update
- Roundtable
- Forest Projects Plan Phase 1 and Phase 2 Update
- Work group updates

## Action Items

Actions	Responsible Parties
Update (update agenda to include no Ad Hoc consensus item) and then post final versions of meeting agenda and last month's meeting summary to the ACCG website.	Lucke
Determine mechanism for updating ACCG on FPP Phase 1 implementation progress/acres treated, was suggested that it could be kept on the ACCG website.	FPP team Admin WG Monitoring WG?
Continue discussions on developing draft CSO territory recommendations for the Phase 2 project. Noted that the group may not come to unanimous support of recommendations. Also noted that conversations with John Keane have started again.	Ad Hoc

## PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS

### Interim ACCG Administration

Presenters: Megan Layhee

Megan Layhee and Lisa Lucke will together perform the ACCG Administration functions until a new Administrator is brought on.

### ROUNDTABLE

- Amanda W/John H. – Amador FSC meeting and a guest speaker and sharing results of the study ARCD of maintenance of FB evaluation cost and effectiveness of different treatment types. Meeting info: <https://www.amadorfiresafe.org/files/6e8a37b17/AFSC+Board+Meeting+Agenda+-+May+2024.pdf>
- Steve Brink- FS is working a saw logs incentive and biomass incentive program and have been combined and app process late next month with awards July \$25 M for this fiscal year and \$25M for next fiscal year. And can try again if you're not successful this year.
- Craig Case- another 30 days until crews start in the field.
- Carinna – no update on CWRRP funding; should hear soon
- Michael P. – Just got governor's budget late last week and seems that everyone's executed grants are going o be fine through this budget crisis. Also, the Crestview parcel CEQA exemption should be completed really soon, by the end of the week.

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- Steve – any specifics about what the state is going to hold in back in terms of awarded grants for the time begin until budget gets nailed.
- Michael – since it still has to go, allocated funds through grant agreements should be okay. Its new programs or funds that SNC was expecting to get is frozen. Funds like CCI are separate in the Cap and Trade are not affected by this budget issue. WCB may also be affected this year in terms of new funding opportunities.
- Steve – the Governor is not being clear, is the awarded grants going to be given.
  - MP- Yes it still a possibility that the awarded grants are not safe and may still be frozen. But SNC remains optimistic.
- Ray- Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> is batch 1 CSO is due and SERAL 2.0 is due as well. Wrapping up hiring seasonals currently.
- Richard – UMRWA new board chair, Terry Woodrow, former chair \_ for the last 20 years.
- Michelle W. - UMRWA FPP Phase I and II stewardship agreement is finally in the last step of review before signature routing.
- Sue H.- going to be selling her land in Calaveras County;
- Char- interested in the ACCG Administration position, and sitting in on the meeting to observe and learn more about the collaborative. Retired from EBMUD and lives in Amador County.
- Chuck L. – FWS CSO batch 2 is another 1-2 weeks out. No new information still looking end of June, first of July to hear from FWS on CSO listing. Seasonals are coming on, roads are opening, Scottiagio fuels work happening. Pre-op meeting for Phase 1 Burnbot contract soon. Western pond turtle listing is unknown at this time, at the earliest Fall 2024, maybe further out then that.

## PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS

### FPP Phase 1 and Phase 2 Update

Presenters: Richard Sykes, Megan Layhee

Richard provided the update on Phase 1, including UMRWA did not receive the recent CAL FIRE Phase 1D-Dogwood project including some work for CHIPS crews. Burnbot will continue on their work this field year, 2K acres. Going out for bid for surveys and RFP for contractors for both Arbor (2,000 acres) and Birch (1,500 acres) soon. Birch is executed with SNC, but still vulnerable with the state budget. John. H suggested going out with smaller projects to get more local contractors to bid. So, for this round we will go with out to up to 5 projects and not require them to start this same season as the RFP. Recently applied for WCB grant for Phase 1C-Cedar for another 2,000 acres.

Megan provided the update on Phase 2, including awarded funding for planning from CAL FIRE (\$500K), recently awarded SNC funds (just under \$800K), and a recent application submitted to WCB for implementation and planning (planning component just over \$600K). Funding for the Monitoring Program as well, including a grant recently submitted to CAL FIRE FHRP for just under \$250K, and awarded funding through SNC RFFCP Round 3 to develop Monitoring Strategy. Project schedule is to release NOI/scoping package on for public scoping end of June-beginning of July 2024. The NOI is currently at the Washington Office. Phase 2 team is partnering with the Planscape team to conduct a

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custom scenario planning for the project. UMRWA is still continuing informal engagement with tribes and FS is conducting formal tribal consultation.

- John – are their alternatives for the public to comment on. Aggressive vs. conservative suite of alternatives.
- Richard – conceptualize alternatives with more detail with the WGs. Scoping Notice is generalized, and not detail.
- Stakeholder meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

## WORK GROUP UPDATES

- Planning work group: Megan Layhee provided the update. The work group met last month and got a presentation from the UMRWA WCB aspen restoration team on the project and then began discussions with the project team on defining treatable stands and buffer widths for the NEPA portion of the project. The team agreed to communicate to the Planning work group between now and the next work group meeting to get feedback on proposed stand buffers for treatment based on stand size. The aspen team plans to reconvene with the Planning work group next week to continue their discussions.
- Forest Plan Amendments (FPP Phase 2) Ad Hoc: Megan provided the update. The Ad Hoc is continuing development of draft recommendations for CSO territories for the FPP Phase 2 project they will continue those discussions at their June meeting. Their next Phase 2 topic to address is developing recommendations for dbh limits and other treatment constraints for all land allocations.
- Monitoring Work Group: Chuck Loffland gave the update. At their April meeting, the work group continued discussions on May 8<sup>th</sup> field validation of remote-sensed data and Michelle Slotan (R5 planning), and Monitoring Coordinator position and FPP Monitoring

**Next general meeting:** June 19th hybrid via Zoom and in person at the Amador RD office in Pioneer.

## Meeting Participants

Count	Name	Affiliation
1	Megan Layhee	ACCG Administrator, UMRWA
2	John Buckley	CSERC
3	Stan Dodson	CSERC
4	Carinna Robertson	USFS, STF Calaveras RD
5	Char Sarkis	Private citizen (in person)
6	Chuck Loffland	USFS, ENF Amador RD (in person)
7	Ray Cablayan	USFS, STF Calaveras RD
8	John Heissenbuttel	Heissenbuttel Natural Resource Consulting, Cal-Am Team
9	Michael Pickard	SNC
10	Steve Brink	California Forestry Association
11	Amanda Watson	Amador FSC/RCD
12	Michelle Wolfgang	USFS, ENF
13	Linda Diesem	Private citizen
14	Sue Holper	ACCG member, private citizen
15	Criag Case	CHIPS