**MEETING BRIEF**

* Meeting facilitator: Carinna Robertson
* Roundtable
* UMRWA-USFS MAC Project update
* Work Group updates
* Presentation by Craig Ostergaard and Lee Hazeltine

**ACTION ITEMS**

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| **Actions** | **Responsible Parties** |
| Post agenda and last month’s general meeting summary as final to the website. | Layhee |
| Share Craig Ostergaard/Lee Hazeltine presentation on the ACCG website. | Layhee |

**MEETING OPENING/HOUSEKEEPING**

Draft agenda and last month’s meeting summary approved. The administrator will post the final versions to the ACCG website.

## **ROUNDTABLE**

Helen Loffland – working on the aspen monitoring data with UMRWA; finishing up some reporting on the great gray owl project with BLM, Amador and Calaveras.

Michael Pickard – thank you to Carinna, Kelin, and Jim Suero for their participation in the SNC board meeting and field tour and to everyone who attended; still in a waiting game with Natural Resources Agency as to solid direction of rollout of Prop 4 funds; opening up a recreation grant this summer.

Rich Farrington – I created a slideshow titled “Erosion threat to the Mokelumne wild and scenic river after wildfire” and shared it at the UMRWA board meeting and with the president of the EBMUD board; also, willing to share it with the ACCG.

Richard Sykes – UMRWA activities since the last meeting include the conclusion for the recruitment for the Tribal Liaison; thanks to Allison Stevenot for helping with the recruitment; five great candidates and the best candidate will be brought to the next UMRWA board meeting; thanks to Regine Miller for covering as Tribal Liaison for the past year or so; there will be a biomass workshop in Sonora on Monday from 10am – 2pm for anyone who may be interested in attending.

Erin Livernois – I’m a new technician with the Calaveras County Resource Conservation District, currently working on a few fuels reduction projects, main project is working on a BLM stewardship agreement to work on some parcels of land affected by the Butte Fire.

Dan Alvey – I’m with the National Forest Foundation as the Central Sierra Program Manager leading our efforts on the Eldorado National Forest.

Carinna Robertson – GNA is starting to move, can start to submit projects, also contracting, forest hazard tree NEPA when signed will be working up higher near Lake Alpine to get hazard trees removed, and Bear Valley hazard trees along 207 and highway 4, PG & E removing hazard trees that are dead standing or old fuels on the ground.

John Buckley – staff continues to do the photo detection camera work in the Stanislaus Forest; last week two staff attended the biomass facility presentation off of Byrnes Ferry Road, they are in the process of rolling out their products which includes packaged fire wood, wood shavings, wood chips, etc. and it may be worth an ACCG field trip to see how waste wood is being utilized; there is a YSS meeting this Friday in Sonora.

Chuck Loffland – there is another layer in the NEPA process, all documents need to be reviewed by the Washington office.

Steve Brink – reviewed the executive order regarding expansion of timber production; discussed recent USDA appointments of Kristin Sleeper and Tom Schutz and their roles with NRE; discussed 13 billion in discretionary funding cuts and the inflation reduction act; discussed forest service probationary employees being brought back into admin leave pay status; discussed forest service budget deficits, staff changes, and the USDA reduction in force program.

**UMRWA-USFS FPP, MAC PROJECT UPDATE**

Richard – Phase I implementation: four contractors are working in the Amador Ranger District, lined up to do close to 4,000 acres of fuels work this year; UMRWA met with the implementation team, refreshing some flagging, and doing other surveys as needed prior to implementation; going out to bid later this year for several million dollars worth of work for a wildlife conservation grant; waiting to hear back from Cal Fire on a grant application submitted in January.

Megan – the MAC project team is working on developing actions and project alternatives; bringing forward the entire proposed action to the planning workgroup in April; there is an IET partnership meeting the end of this month; currently rerunning the forces modeling effort for the project and reevaluating the parameters.

## **WORK GROUP UPDATES**

* The Admin Workgroup met last Monday to figure out a 2025 ACCG field tour, target date will be in September, John Heissenbuttel is working on the first two tour stops; it is also time to reach out to ACCG membership to remind them about the MOA and update the member list based on current participation; also working on the ACCG administration long term funding plan which is an UMRWA deliverable, the admin workgroup is leading this charge for the next few months and will bring a draft plan to the full ACCG membership.
* The Planning Workgroup did not meet last month and will be meeting next week via Zoom. The first topic to tackle will be recommendations from the ACCG forest plan amendment ad hoc for DBH limits for the MAC project, the ad hoc consensus recommendations will be brought to the full ACCG at the April 16th general meeting. The MAC team is trying to finish up compiling a revised delineation of the fuel break network and develop treatment specifications for the fuel break, tentative plan is to present this to the planning workgroup next week.
  + Carinna - a new agreement was signed with SPI for 75M; been instructed to increase the fuel break network to include everything in the new agreement, it is a good time to include highway 4 and other areas/gaps missed on connecting forest/SPI land.
  + Jay – the SPI agreement will also include fuel break maintenance for follow up treatment, currently hoping to get boots on the ground and machines running this summer.
* The Monitoring Workgroup met on March 12th and worked on developing the MAC monitoring strategy and discussed the coordination of efforts with Dr. Derek Young. He and Becky Estes will be presenting to the full ACCG at the July general meeting.

**GUEST PRESENTATION**

Goat grazing for forest fuels on SPI lands presentation by Craig Ostergaard and Lee Hazeltine.

Go to the ACCG website to view Craig Ostergaard & Lee Hazeltine’s presentation: <https://acconsensus.org/resources/videos/>

**MEETING CLOSE**

**Next general meeting:** The next meeting is April 16th, 2025, hybrid via Zoom and in person at the Amador RD office in Pioneer. Stan Dodson will facilitate.

# **MEETING PARTICIPANTS**

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| **Count** | **Name** | **Affiliation** |
| 1 | Chuck Loffland | USFS, ENF, Amador RD (in person) |
| 2 | Carina Robertson | USFS, STF, Calaveras RD (in person) |
| 3 | Stan Dodson | CSERC (in person) |
| 4 | Helen Loffland | IBP |
| 5 | Michael Pickard | SNC |
| 6 | Char Sarkis | Incoming ACCG Administrator (in person) |
| 7 | John Buckley | CSERC (in person) |
| 8 | Steve Brink | AFRC (in person) |
| 9 | Chris Shull | Mason, Bruce and Girard |
| 10 | Linda Diesem | private citizen, District 2, Calaveras |
| 11 | Matt Brown | USFS |
| 12 | Anne Calderwood | Beaver Restoration Group |
| 13 | Sue Holper | private citizen, ACCG member |
| 14 | Craig Ostergaard | SPI (in person) |
| 15 | Lee Hazeltine | Integrazers (in person) |
| 16 | Megan Layhee | Acting ACCG Administrator/UMRWA (in person) |
| 17 | Laura Gunderson | Integrazers (in person) |
| 18 | Rich Farrington | AWA, UMRWA Board member |
| 19 | Richard Sykes | UMRWA |
| 20 | Allison Stevenot | USDA (in person) |
| 21 | Anna Bonnette | Botanist (in person) |
| 22 | Tom Hofstra | CSERC (in person) |
| 23 | Jay Francis | SPI |
| 24 | Hannah Grabowski | SPI |
| 25 | Erin Livernois | CCRCD |
| 26 | Jesse Plummer | USFS, ENF, Amador RD |
| 27 | Dan Alvey | NFF |