

Action Item Notes

Effectiveness Monitoring Committee Meeting

June 17, 2016
BLM Ukiah Field Office

Participants (12) : Stu Farber (Co-Chair), Dr. Kevin Boston, René LeClerc, Tom Engstrom, Ali Dunn, Mandy Culpepper, Dave Longstreth, Steve Baumgartner, Peter Ribar, Chuck Ciancio, Connor Pompa, and Pete Cafferata.

Webinar participants (1): George Gentry.

Report by the Co-Chair

- Stu Farber summarized his EMC report to the BOF on June 15th, including that the AB 1492 TRFR Program funding for EMC work (\$425K/yr for 2 yrs) continues to be in the proposed budget.
- Representing Dr. Russ Henly, Mr. Farber also updated the EMC on AB 1492 topics, including the Pilot Watershed Project (Campbell Creek in the SF Ten Mile River watershed). A public advisory committee is in the process of being established. **Matt Dias will send out the link to the website soliciting participation; letters of interest are due by June 24th.**

EMC Membership

- Stu Farber announced that the BOF voted to reappoint Tom Engstrom to the EMC.
- The SWRCB/Regional Board seat will be filled by Ms. Ali Dunn, SWRCB, when the BOF is able to vote on her appointment (all members must be appointed by the BOF by vote).
- Applications have been submitted for the vacant public EMC seat and additional applications are being solicited; Stu Farber, Russ Henly, and Matt Dias will recommend appointment to the Board..
- Mr. Dias is still seeking replacement for EMC position vacated by Dr. Bill Diatterick, Cal Poly, and is requesting assistance from Cal Poly and UCCE staff.
- The USFS seat remains open, but the new USFS PSW Research Hydrologist position has been filled by Dr. Joe Wagenbrenner (reporting in August 2016), and he has been contacted regarding EMC participation. **Matt Dias will send a letter of solicitation to Dr. Wagenbrenner.**
- The EMC “request for applicants” is posted on the EMC webpage.
- Travel costs for monitoring community EMC members can be paid by the State, but per diem charges for non-state agency representatives remains under discussion.

Review of Proposed Monitoring Projects with Detailed Project Descriptions

- **EMC-2015-002** (FORPRIEM ver. 2.0)—Pete Cafferata.
 - A cross walk to the FPRs being monitored is to be included in the full proposal.

- Statistical review is needed prior to finalizing a sampling plan. **The project proposal is to be rewritten with a statistical component, including a cost estimate (confirm if this will occur with a CAL FIRE contract, estimated to be \$10-20K).**
 - The revised project descriptions will state that only erosion features related to FPRs will be recorded (i.e., critical questions regarding non-operations, such as recording streamside landslide features in WLPZs unrelated to current timber operations, will not be addressed).
 - Training with public involvement is addressed in the May 11th version of the detailed project description (see Section 5.3).
- **EMC 2016-002** (Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest Post-Fire Research and Effectiveness Monitoring)—Drew Coe
 - The various treatments in the post-fire management study are to be included in a table.
 - **No funding is being solicited from the EMC, due to a pending Water Board 319(h) grant.**
 - The Sierra Cascade Intensive Research Co-Op will provide advice on appropriate herbicide treatments (see: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/SCIFMRC/>).
- **EMC-2015-004** (Effectiveness of Road Rules in Reducing Hydrologic Connectivity and Significant Sediment Discharge)—Drew Coe.
 - The EMC supports using a pre- and post-plan implementation data collection approach, rather than a “target” scenario (e.g., 10% for remaining connectivity).
 - This study will utilize “plan-scale” data collection, rather than random road segment data collection (e.g., FORPRIEM 2.0.). Statistical consultation is required to ensure proper data collection, particularly for large plans. A stratified random sampling approach for plan selection, similar to that being developed for FORPRIEM ver. 2.0., will be used. **The project proposal is to be rewritten with a statistical component, including a cost estimate (determine if this will occur with a CAL FIRE contract or with EMC funding, estimated to be \$10-20K).**
 - **Determine if funding for a contractor will be necessary to complete this project (EMC funding), or if multi-agency teams will be available for this study. The EMC decided to wait on ranking this project until the funding needs are known.**
 - Connectivity by watercourse class is to be recorded.
 - Several suggested changes for Table 1 were recorded, including:
 - Add a “filter strip condition” category.
 - Change road surfacing to “road surface.”
 - Add a “road construction quality/compaction category.”
 - Add watercourse class.
 - Change “length of road abandoned” to “length of road abandoned/deactivated.”
- **EMC-2015-001** (Class II-L monitoring)—Drew Coe.

- A revised concept proposal is under development, accordingly, the 2014 concept proposal was not considered for ranking by the EMC at this meeting.

EMC Project Proposal Ranking

- It was determined that two concept proposals were developed sufficiently to rank and beta test the ranking procedure found in Appendix F of the EMC Strategic Plan:
 - **EMC-2015-002** (FORPRIEM ver. 2.0)
 - **EMC 2016-002** (BMDSF Post-Fire Research and Effectiveness Monitoring)
 - Seven EMC members or representatives for EMC members voted.
 - Summary table of ranking scores (note scientific uncertainty is multiplied by 2):

Project #	Project Title	Critical Question	Scientific Uncertainty	Geographic Application	Collaboration & Feasibility	Total Ranking
2015-002	FORPRIEM ver. 2.0	4.6	3.4	5.0	4.4	20.8
2016--002	BMDSF Post-Fire Studies	4.1	4.3	3.7	4.4	20.8

- EMC 2015-004 was not ranked due to the need for a proposed budget; EMC 2015-001 was not ranked due to the need for a revised project description.
- **Mr. Farber will submit the summary table of ranking scores for the BOF July binder along with a one page summary; Mr. Dias will send it to the full EMC email list and post it on the EMC webpage, and it will be included in the revised EMC Strategic Plan as an appendix.**
- The updated EMC Strategic Plan will be provided to the BOF at their December 2016 meeting.
- There was full EMC support for both projects.
- The EMC members plan is to review proposed projects with detailed concept proposals twice a year (i.e., April and October).

Discussion of Ranking Process

- Each EMC member or member representative stated suggestions for improvements in the ranking process using the Appendix F procedure.
- **A subcommittee composed of Dr. Kevin Boston, Mandy Culpepper, and Pete Cafferata will develop a one page expansion of Appendix F, for review by the EMC at the next meeting, that will provide: (1) greater detail on how to interpret the meaning of the four ranking categories (e.g., expand scientific uncertainty to state “current scientific understanding as related to the CA FPRs and other natural resource protection regulations...”; geographic application in California, etc.), and (2) a better explanation of the overall process.**
- **A subcommittee of René LeClerc, Dr. Kevin Boston, and Pete Cafferata will write a draft “request for proposals” announcement for review by the EMC at the next meeting.** This letter will include the following information:
 - RFPs should be focused on EMC critical questions and FPRs and associated regulations.
 - California-centric issues should be focus of RFP.

- The date when proposals are to be submitted to the EMC for review.
- When funding will be available.
- Overhead rate allowed.
- Disclosure that the proposal will be made publically available, as well as the ranking the project receives from the EMC.
- Reference to the EMC website for information on previously submitted projects, critical themes and questions, templates for project proposals, etc.
- The announcement will be released to the public in July using the EMC website, BOF email lists, etc.

Public Comment

- Peter Ribar commented that he benefited from seeing how the ranking process works, and that he likes the concept of bi-annual ranking of projects.

Next Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

- The next meeting dates are August 2nd in Redding, and tentatively late September/early October in Ukiah. **Matt Dias will send out a Doodle poll for the weeks of Sept 19th, October 3rd, and October 10th.**
- Agenda items for the August 2nd meeting will include:
 - Discussion of contract management/administration for the expected EMC funding, including how the projects will be tracked over time.
 - Discussion of how to address potential conflicts of interest with the expected funding.

EMC-Related Meeting Announcements

- The Coast Redwood Forest Symposium will take place on September 13-15, 2016 in Eureka (see: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/Redwood2016/>).
- The BOF will tour BMDSF during their July meeting (July 20th).
- The Trinity Co. Erosion and Sediment Control BMP Workshop held on June 6th in Weaverville was stated as being very worthwhile by Mr. Farber. See Tom Leroy's excellent PPT: http://www.calsalmon.org/sites/default/files/2016_Trinity_BMP_PWA_Presentation.pdf
- The 19th Annual Coho Confab is scheduled for August 26-28th in Caspar (Jughandle Creek Farm). For more information, see: <http://www.calsalmon.org/programs/coho-confabs/19th-annual-coho-confab>