

**From:** [Matt O'Connor](#)  
**To:** [AB1492Program.Comments@CNRA](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on 2nd draft concept paper and Dec 15 workshop  
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I commend the inclusive format of the workshop.

Although the concept paper specifically states that the PPWG's "will **not** conduct formal watershed assessments or cumulative effects analyses" (2<sup>nd</sup> to last paragraph on page 4), the tone of the workshop comments made it evident that an assessment of existing conditions and an understanding of cumulative effects is what is desired (perhaps expected) by many.

I think the concept paper is pretty clear that the intent is to review available data, make it available in a useful GIS format, consider the utility of the available data for cumulative effects and habitat restoration purposes, and identify data gaps. It may be both difficult and undesirable to limit the scope of PPWG to avoid using available data to attempt to define existing conditions and identify cumulative effects. Doing that may be the best way for the PPWG to understand and evaluate the uses and limitations of the available data, however, without a formal process to guide that effort it would be inefficient at best and ineffective at worst.

I think the structure of proposed PPWG membership (page 9) seems appropriate. I suggest that TRFR plan for a professional facilitator to work with the PPWG. I have been working as a member of a Technical Advisory Group for groundwater management with somewhat similar structure, and it is difficult to imagine the process in the absence of the facilitator.

LiDAR was mentioned once or twice; I think that it could be very helpful for evaluating existing data, but I can also imagine that it might set up the need for much additional technical support. Overall, I would advocate for the use of LiDAR for this type of natural resources application.

Matthew O'Connor  
Interim Director  
Coast Range Watershed Institute  
[www.coastrangewater.org](http://www.coastrangewater.org)