

Pacific West Community Forestry Center
Triannual Progress Report
May through September 2002

Appendices: The following documents will be mailed under separate cover as appendices: Advisory Council conference call notes, a newsletter, and publications.

1. Introduction and Overview

Highlights for the PWCFC for the reporting period (May-September 2002) include:

- mushroom harvesters from communities throughout the Pacific West working more closely than ever with the Center and identifying their needs for improved research and land management in prime mushroom monitoring areas,
- the Lead Group of Latino harvesters meeting to describe their research and other needs,
- the Maidu meeting with Western Scientists to jointly advance Traditional Environmental Knowledge (TEK), and
- the hiring of a PWCFC coordinator.

2. Problem Identification

The Center has focused its work in the following priority areas, which, with the exception of number four, themselves constitute communities of workers and places:

- 1) The current ecosystem workforce and mobile workers (including mushroom monitoring, floral greens workers, and others);
- 2) Traditional Cultural and Environmental Knowledge
- 3) Environmental Justice
- 4) Social and Ecosystem Monitoring, Evaluation, and Assessment

One of the most difficult aspects of the PWCFC mission is to find ways to establish relevant and effective communication about the PWCFC mission in cooperation with underserved communities.

Many underserved communities tend to reject traditional institution-based research approaches, especially if they have already been subjected to such research. Other groups that are newly exposed to “outside” researchers, on the other hand, are frequently vulnerable to being used or abused in research based on flawed understanding of cross-cultural realities.

The PWCFC combines front-line communication and networking with basic participatory research in low-income, underserved communities, as reflected in the projects described below. Participatory research creates the opportunity for communities to design approaches that respect the culture and the particular challenges (immigration, loss of traditional knowledge, fear of governmental authority and heavy handedness) of the communities. Participatory research allows communities to figure out culturally-respectful ways in which institutional researchers can cooperate to address technical or other community-identified problems.

Many of the forest communities with which the PWCFC is cooperating have not previously been aware of community forestry networks. Because the PWCFC is well connected to these “outside” networks, the PWCFC is a vehicle to help connect communities to a broader web of forest organizations. And indeed through our focus on Environmental Justice and through increasing outreach and work with universities and extension we’re beginning to make headway linking these groups to others as well as making the community forestry networks more aware of these groups and issues.

However, in the case of underserved communities, this is not as straightforward as it sounds: we have learned that many low-income communities identify the existing community forestry network as far outside underserved communities’ realities, and perhaps dangerous rather than helpful to cultural communities’ well-being. The specific community-based activities supported by the PWCFC may be considered relevant — a tool — but the ways in which the PWCFC can serve by incorporating communities into a farther-reaching web of mutually-advantageous research and dialogue is a leap of faith about which many underserved communities are skeptical. Increasingly, the PWCFC is understanding that the legacy of a history of neglect towards underserved forest communities not only inhibits our clear understanding of the overall system of forestry, but has also erected barriers that will require time and non-traditional approaches, including a substantial cross-cultural engagement, to overcome.

PWCFC is thus continuing to pioneer work in how to conduct “outreach” (itself a word rejected by, for instance, many communities of color) or rather, “consciously interactive cooperation,” among underserved groups in forestry.

A goal of broadening the base of civic participation in forest-related matters, which is a natural corollary of participatory research and expanded communication, is thoroughly integrated into PWCFC engagement with low-income, underserved forest communities.

3. (Bioregional) Advisory Council (BAC) Development and Functioning

The Pacific West Community Forestry Advisory Council continues to conference on a regular basis, and staff connection to individual advisory council members continues intermittently but regularly. Our regularly scheduled conference call takes place the third Monday of every month, from 9:30 to 10:30. During the past four months two conference call times were shifted to accommodate member schedules and to enable the new coordinator to participate. The Advisory Council member roster and conference call notes from four calls are included in the appendix. Conference call dates: May 20; June 24; July 15; and August 26.

The Advisory Council will meet September 12 and 13 in Redding, California for its second face-to-face meeting of the year. At that meeting the group will discuss additions and modifications to the committee structure.

4. Work with Partner Communities

All partner communities were selected in consultation with the Bioregional Advisory Council. The partner communities include:

- Maidu Cultural and Development Group
- Latino Leadership Group (multi-community forest workers)
- Shelton (Washington) area Latino forest floral greens harvester group
- Crescent Lake Multi-Party [Mushroom] Monitoring Project

- Medford Latino contract forest worker community (Workforce Assessment Project)

The community projects are described below, with attention to details of local cooperators in the partner communities, formal contracts or agreements executed, work and research conducted, and research and policy outcomes.

Maidu Cultural and Development Group (MCDG)

Ferrell Cunningham is the lead for the Maidu Cultural and Development Group (MCDG) and a local cooperator with the Pacific West Community Forestry Center. When the PWCFC advisory council agreed to include Traditional Environmental Knowledge (TEK) as a focus area, the Maidu Cultural and Development Group was selected as a primary group with which to work.

Local cooperators

In July, PWCFC engaged with Ferrell Cunningham and six other Maidu natives and MCDG participants (among others) in the two-day science team meeting on the practice of Traditional Environmental Knowledge on the Maidu stewardship pilot site. Additional meetings were held separately throughout the period with Ferrell to help plan and coordinate the team meeting and advance MCDG-TEK work.

Contracts and/or agreements

A formal contract and agreement has been established with Ferrell Cunningham of the MCDG.

Work and research conducted

One dozen people participated in the Western science-TEK meeting to conduct Western research and TEK application simultaneously, creating a conversation between the two equally valid streams of knowledge and management. The group visited the Stewardship Site and discussed projects—oak restoration, willow management, the upcoming Resource Advisory Committee-funded fuels reduction corridor—from both scientific and traditional points of view. Projects at the site have multiple goals, including the ecological health of the land and the economic, cultural and social health of the community. Over an intensive two-day session, attendees explored research possibilities, the goals of a Maidu-scientist engagement, and next steps for the team and the stewardship project.

The group struggled with the ethics of having one system of knowledge (Western science) lending credibility to another, older system of knowledge (TEK). Researchers and TEK holders worked together to identify common goals for the project, and common research questions that would be useful to both the Maidu and Western scientists. The meeting operated on both a philosophical level—exploring what systems of knowledge participants used to understand the world and their communities—and a specific, project-based level, with ongoing discussion of how one might experiment with the management of choke cherries to achieve both Maidu and Western scientific goals.

Research and policy outcomes

All attendees see the project as highly valuable for the Maidu community, the landscape, and the discussion/engagement between Western science and Indigenous knowledge. The group plans to work together to develop research questions, identify and approach professors interested in being involved, and pursue a long-term Administrative Research & Study Area designation from the Forest Service. Presently, the project is

scheduled to sunset in two years, but the above designation would allow the Maidu to manage the land for up to 99 years, allowing the true ongoing practice of TEK on the landscape and in the community.

Latino Leadership Group

José Montenegro, in a partnership between El Centro Internacional para el Desarrollo Sustentable (CIDERS) and PWCFC, visited Latino forest worker communities in Portola (California); Medford, Salem (Oregon); and Shelton, Aberdeen, and Forks (Washington). José made connection with forest worker community leaders through initial contacts supplied by the Jefferson Center, and held community meetings in each community to discuss the possibilities in community forestry with the PWCFC/CIDERS collaboration. Established and emerging leaders within each community continued communication with José, and came together in a “Leadership Group” meeting in May.

Local cooperators

Community leaders in Shelton (Saúl G.), Forks (Manuela V.), and Aberdeen (Isabel C. with “Alejandro”) are the primary local cooperators. In each community is a core of people cooperating with the primary leaders. Also involved in the on-going conversations, information-sharing, and beginnings of the group process of participatory research on community forestry needs are Latino non-profit leaders who either used to be forest workers or are current forest workers. Primary non-profit leaders are from Salem (Roberto B.), Medford (Jesús D.), and Portola (Asunción).

As is typical of most Latino forest worker communities, most of these local cooperators belong to informal but bonded social/workplace networks of forest workers.

Contracts and/or agreements

In the Latino Leadership Group project, an informal but very explicit cooperative agreement to continue the project has been made between José Montenegro and the community leaders in Forks, Shelton, and Aberdeen. The community leaders in Salem, Medford, and Portola are anticipated to be likely to be informally incorporated into this agreement in the near future.

Work and research conducted

A structured assessment of the forest worker community has been initiated in the first Leadership Group meeting, followed up with individual phone calls to key participants. Research on the brush industry and a current lawsuit has been widely disbursed. An initial conference call in Spanish on the current lawsuit and its impact on forest workers was requested, and was coordinated by the PWCFC with assistance from the Jefferson Center and CIDERS. A face-to-face meeting on the implications of the existing and possible community-forest relationships was held with resource people including BAC member Rebecca Smith. In two other meetings, resource people from the Latino community were invited to speak about the processes of working on issues that combined the community and forest context. The need for expanded participatory research, supplemented by formal research information on viable options in community forestry, are urgently needed.

Research and policy outcomes

Latino forest communities have barely been involved in research and policy in community forestry. This reflects such a small representation percentage-wise that it is vanishingly small compared to the large importance of the Latino community in on-the-

ground forestry across the Pacific West, the South from Arkansas to Florida, southern Appalachia, southern Indiana and associated regions, and Maine.

Forming the Latino Leadership Group is the first step to consolidating a broad Spanish-speaking and bilingual network that will interface with the mainstream community forestry movement taking place in English.

On a more community-based level, the Latino Leadership Group is creating the kind of regional community forestry network in the Spanish-speaking community that has been so pivotally important in developing the expansion and effectiveness of the English-speaking community forestry movement in the U.S. This includes the sharing of technical, research, and community-capacity-building resources for realistic community-based forestry options for the Latino community.

Shelton (Washington) area Latino forest floral greens harvester group

The Shelton, Washington, area is the center of the international trade in wild forest floral greens from the Pacific Coastal region of the U.S. Many Latino men also are involved in contract forest work. Home to large numbers of people in communities of Spanish- and indigenous-language Mexicans, and Mayan-speaking Guatemalan forest workers, Shelton has one of the most concentrated populations of near-year-round Latino forest workers in the Pacific West. PWCFC connected with an already-established nucleus of people in the Latino community who were tentatively trying to approach the forest issues, but had little networking, access to information, or access to basic research on their problems. The match between this burgeoning community forestry effort and PWCFC was a natural, especially since many of the issues faced in Shelton help bring into relief a number of national issues in forestry.

Local cooperators

Saúl Guijosa is the main contact leader. Saúl is supported by a sub-set of people in Mason County Literacy, especially Jenny Blumenstein and Ellen Shortt-Sanchez, to develop the capacity of the forest worker community to access community forestry leadership skills, basic information via the non-profit and professional research community, and networking *within* the multi-cultural, multi-lingual Latino forest worker community. Saúl has brought together a group of about six core people from the Latino community who are meeting regularly to explore options in community-forest relationships. This core group has cooperated with PWCFC BAC members Rebecca Smith and Beverly Brown to pursue more information with a particularly difficult set of challenges with national implications for community forestry.

Contracts and/or agreements

A formal contract/agreement has been established with local cooperator, Saúl Guijosa.

Work and research conducted

Saúl has cooperated with the people from Mason County Literacy, leaders from two Washington social justice groups with Latino leadership (David Ayala, Casa Latina; Ricardo Ortega, LELO), a coordinator of a Latino popular education group from L.A., and BAC member Rebecca Smith to hold meetings for Spanish-speaking people who are exploring how to pursue options with the context of community and forestry in a highly conflicted situation that is intensely polarized by divisions of race, language, and culture. BAC member Rebecca Smith, and José Montenegro — in a cross-over capacity with the PWCFC/CIDERS Leadership Group process — has cooperated with Saúl and others in the now-established core group to have access to information and potential models for

options. Community forestry in Mexico is a model with which many people connect more readily than the U.S. models. The PWCFC cooperation helps merge the concepts and options for realistic (or lack of current conditions and what it would take for realistic) community forestry options.

Research and policy outcomes

The Shelton group is taking a lead in exploring the impacts of business-initiated lawsuits that would severely limit the ability of the Latino community to participate in community forestry without fear of grave repercussions (loss of livelihood, physical intimidation, and deportation of family members in retaliatory measures by individuals or companies with more power in forestry).

Challenging structures of forestry that not only inhibit, but actively prevent the participation of principal stakeholders in community forestry, has resounding policy outcomes. Most acutely, these policy stakes are currently present in fuels reduction programs and in regulations and policies affecting non-timber forest products (on either public or private industrial forest lands).

To develop the ability to access research, information, technical training, etc., the Latino community must undertake the basic steps that will enable community forestry. To omit these steps, supported in the PWCFC cooperations, would be to omit the Latino community, and other low-income stakeholder communities, from community forestry. A community forestry movement that does not support the active participation of principal stakeholders who do not fit a mainstream concept of “community forestry,” does not deserve the description of “community.”

The Shelton local cooperator efforts are especially important when discussed and compared in association with the CLMMP project.

Crescent Lake Multi-Party [Mushroom] Monitoring Project (CLMMP) (includes direct active participation of seven geographical communities)

The CLMMP was a project initiated by mushroom harvesters, the Institute for Culture and Ecology, and the Jefferson Center in 2000. In 2001, it became clear that the PWCFC had the greater capacity to work with the partners to meld a more effective community forestry coalition. The ability of the PWCFC to provide consistent, wide-ranged liaisons to information and expertise, while also being willing to support and inform this innovative effort at grassroots participatory research in community forestry, vastly improved the capacity and effectiveness of the CLMMP. Leaders self-selected in the various ethnic and geographical communities (Washington, Oregon, California), and have expanded direct participation with PWCFC through conference calls, field tours, and initiatives.

Local cooperators

The process of identifying primary leadership contacts within the mushroom community has been a chicken-egg process. As PWCFC has expanded its support in the project, more leaders have come forth. Key original leaders in the harvest community were Vern Oden and Kao Saechao (both experienced matsutake mushroom harvesters with a commitment to a community forestry approach – although they don’t necessarily name it “community forestry”). More recently, Sothan Suy, Chandeng Sandara, and Phet Thausack have stepped forward to become more involved in leadership roles in gathering information, interfacing with “expert” and research communities, and participating in conference call deliberations.

Contracts and/or agreements

Formal contracts/agreements have been established with local cooperators Kao Saechao and Vern Oden.

Work and research conducted

The CLMMP is a remarkable and highly successful exemplar of grassroots community-based participatory research in a community forestry context. The 2001 CLMMP season involved monitors covering five language groups, public community meetings, campfire-sized meetings with harvesters, local residents, and others intimately associated with the mushroom harvest. The monitors, field coordinator (Beverly Brown, for the PWCFC), and local community anchors (Bill and Gloria Gibbs) kept logs, meeting notes, and conversation notes. These were compared in group meetings and in a final report.

The result of this process was the identification of pivotal issues in the environmental, economic, and social dynamics of the matsutake harvest of south-central Oregon, and the emergence of harvest-community leaders from behind-the-scenes to public participation. Although many issues that are at the heart of community forestry are being addressed, the most salient at this time is a petition to the Forest Supervisor to suspend a set of timber sales until the social, economic, and environmental impact on the mushrooms and the resident and mobile communities involved in the mushrooms is assessed. This assessment process was left out in the five years of planning for the timber sales, including the omission of any public contact of the mobile or resident mushroom-impacted communities. The goal of the petition is to strengthen the cooperative process among the Forest Service, the local community, and the mobile community (and is understood as such by the affected District Ranger). The petition was groundbreaking in being a document jointly crafted and signed by close to seventy people on short notice, including twenty signatures of local permanent residents (and business owners) alongside signatures from five geographical communities of harvesters representing Mien, Lao, Cambodian, Hmong, Latino, and low-income Anglo communities.

Research and policy outcomes

The CLMMP project has demonstrated unequivocally that on-the-ground participatory research, and realistic access to public participation, will result in the substantive participation of low-income people — U.S.-born and recent immigrant; local *with* mobile communities; across language groups — in public issues in community forestry. This has major policy implications in itself, as much public policy and public processes assume that these constituencies are “not interested” in public participation, research, analysis, and decision-making in forestry. The CLMMP is pioneering successful community forestry in these contexts in the U.S. (this approach is more typical of successful community forestry in developing nations).

The CLMMP is additionally crucial in demonstrating the comparative differences between a non-timber forest products (NTFP) regime in which harvesters are independent free actors, and when harvesters are working under a “boss” (whether legally acknowledged or not as an employer). In the CLMMP program, NTFP harvesters each hold a personal permit, and can sell to whomever they please; they are independent. In the Shelton situation, harvesters have access to land only through a contract/bid winner — an intermediary between the landowner/manager and the harvester, who is usually referred to colloquially as a “leaseholder.” This “leaseholder” can and does exert sufficient intimidation on the harvester community that the presence of harvester “voice,” and willingness to participate in public processes — including environmental monitoring — is, to date, *zero*.

The comparative systems hold significant policy implications for NTFP management and public participation by principal stakeholders in community forestry. It deserves continued participatory research, as well as structured academic/policy research.

Medford Latino contract forest worker community (the beginnings of a Workforce Assessment Project)

The Workforce Assessment still moves slowly, but progress is going forward on two fronts. In Medford, Oregon, discussions and contacts with the Latino community have been initiated by Brinda Sarathy, a Ph.D. student in the Environment, Society, Policy, and Management (ESPM) program at Berkeley. Brinda worked in association with the PWCFC to begin the process of identifying Latino leaders who may be interested in the community forestry resources offered by PWCFC.

Further north, we have begun discussions with a potential research partner, fluent at a cultural and graduate level in Spanish, and accustomed to dealing with both grassroots rural communities and the policy environment. This may be a person who can get the word out about PWCFC resources and programs to the Latino contract forest worker community in northern Oregon and Centralia-area, Washington. Hood River/White Salmon communities are also a possibility.

Local cooperators

The process of offering resources and identifying key communities is still underway. The process itself is a project, with a need to work across Spanish and English, understand the dynamics of the communities in an often distrustful and/or fearful social environment.

Contracts and/or agreements

To date, no formal contracts or agreements have been established with local cooperators.

Work and research conducted

As mentioned above, this is still in development. Brinda Sarathy, during the summer of 2002, as an independent researcher informed by and in association with the PWCFC (and funds she raised via UC Berkeley), began the process of discussions with Latino community leaders in the Rogue Valley of southwest Oregon. This is one of the main recruitment communities for Latino forest workers in the Pacific Northwest and far northern California.

We are actively recruiting an identified researcher who may be the right person to carry out the participatory research on the Workforce Assessment.

Research and policy outcomes

This continues to be an area of urgent concern, but lacks the full complement of partners to succeed. These partners are close to being in place.

The policy implications of this needed research are huge. Mainstream (in the Pacific West, meaning European-American identified communities) community forestry groups have conducted considerable community assessment and research reflecting their “local” — generally meaning local white communities — realities.

There is no corresponding set of structured, policy-discussion-ready community assessments and community forestry research that reflect an analysis of the large and principal stakeholder group represented by Latino communities, supported by thousands of Spanish-speaking forest contract workers.

In the absence of research reflecting the realities of the Latino community, the existing mainstream policy voice of community forestry and current decision-making (informed by research on only one ethnic group of forest worker communities), is allowing policy to go forward with no voice from one of the most intensely-affected and numerically large community forestry stakeholder groups. Because the Latino community is the on-the-ground backbone of forest labor all across the Pacific West, the U.S. South, the south-central Midwest, southern Appalachia, and Maine, this is a fundamental issue of democracy.

5. Regional Center Research

The PWCFC has continued to work on Environmental Justice (EJ) and Social and Ecosystem Monitoring, Evaluation, and Assessment, both as part of the work with partners described above and work engaged in separately as research projects. Both topics are long-identified focus issues for the center. The Pacific West Center seeks to integrate rural EJ with monitoring and evaluation assessments and participatory research. The overarching purpose is to elevate rural Environmental Justice with natural resource policy making, legislation, and funding.

Environmental Justice is often framed as an urban issue, with power plants or other facilities being placed in already impoverished city neighborhoods with high concentrations of ethnic minorities. However, EJ issues are present in rural areas, where traditional cultural uses include family forestry, family farms, ranching, fishing, hunting, gathering, and subsistence. All of these are vulnerable to spraying, abandoned mines, illegal dumping, brownfields, water deals, and development. Unrecognized and unrecognized Native American tribes, farm workers, small farmers, brush and mushroom harvesters, and pockets of minorities in rural areas often face issues of inadequate water supplies, and/ or a lack of participation in decisions affecting their livelihoods and cultural continuity.

The PWCFC has been involved in defining rural Environmental Justice through a review of policies and the legal framework for Environmental Justice. This includes compiling a database of rural EJ issues. This database is defining the landscape of Environmental Justice. Activities have included library and internet research of financial, educational, and technical resources for EJ groups. A preliminary paper covering the results of this early investigation will be forthcoming. The new PWCFC Coordinator will continue to build the EJ database, which will be a resource for groups, communities, agencies, researchers, policy makers and networks.

The Pacific West Community Forestry Center continues work on social assessment issues. The Center has provided a small portion of the support for the Assessment of the Northwest Economic Adjustment, which, among other things includes assessment of 28 communities in the PWCFC region. Six tribal communities have been included in the assessment and significant tribal organizational and business development issues with wide ranging implications have arisen from the assessment. The Center continues also to work on the development of a work force assessment, with specific focus on Latino harvesters and other mobile workers. An intern explored issues over the summer and made numerous connections in southern Oregon that will be utilized in the study and expanded upon in the future. A restoration workforce assessment is also being framed for northwestern California in partnership with the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment. The PWCFC will take the lead in producing this assessment but will link it to the broader region-wide assessment the Alliance is advancing. With the exception of the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative study, which is nearing completion and has been circulated to an advisory committee consisting of state and federal agencies, academics, and community members, the other studies are in preliminary planning stages.

The PWCFC has recently initiated engagement in the Council of Environmental Quality review of the National Environmental Policy Act. We are working with community forestry partners to obtain comments for a joint letter and plan to advance a more detailed review in the coming months.

6. Communications and Outreach

A newsletter was circulated to over 400 people this summer. Other publications are in the process of preparation. The mushroom monitoring report has been through an extensive editing process. A report was produced on the Lead Group meeting in Spanish and circulated to participants and workers throughout the region. Executive summaries in English and Spanish were produced and shared with workers as well as with participants at the NCFC meeting in June.

A draft primer on Environmental Justice and participatory research for rural areas has been produced. This work is now in the process of review and will be finalized and made available for circulation and via the website in late September. This document contains definitions of and a history of the Environmental Justice movement in the U.S.; preliminary identification of issues for rural EJ groups; and an inventory of resources for EJ groups including a discussion of laws, policies, ad hoc networks, and funding sources.

Though the meetings were supported through other means, the PWCFC participated in three Lead Partnership Group meetings involving a diversity of groups in May, June, and July.

Latino harvester meetings were organized as described above. Numerous Environmental Justice meetings were attended throughout the late spring and early summer in places as diverse as Los Angeles, Fresno, the Bay Area, and Burney, California.

Three mushroom harvester teleconference meetings were organized and supported.

There are many organizations with which the PWCFC is working, several of which are described above, and some of which are encountered at Lead Partnership Group meetings. The new coordinator attended the Collaborative Learning Circle meeting in late August.

7. Other Activities

Staff attended the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management in Indianapolis and shared the work of the Center with conference participants. Connections to the new coordinator were made through conference participation.

The PWCFC hosted the Ford International Forestry Environmental Leaders in July for discussion, presentations on socioeconomic monitoring and Environmental Justice, and a field trip which included discussions of local forest and watershed restoration work.

Planning was initiated for hosting the first rural-urban Environmental Justice meeting with EJ representatives from urban and rural areas participating, planned for the spring of 2003.

The Center hosted the Maidu-Western scientist-TEK integration meeting on site and supported the team visits to the Maidu stewardship pilot site.

Center staff participated in a Traditional Environmental Knowledge camp with local area youth.

Policy work focused on maintaining safeguards of NEPA in community-based processes.

8. National Responsibilities

Staff participated in the National Advisory Council meeting of the NCFC in June, and all but one Executive Committee conference call during the report period.

9. Administration.

New Staff: A new coordinator, Katie Bagby, was hired and started August 26. A summer intern, Brinda Sarathy, worked with the Center and Latino harvesters in southern Oregon. A third person was hired to assist with participatory research in the mushroom camps in the fall.

Additional staff involved in Center activities during the period included: Beverly Brown working with the mushroom harvesters (Oregon) and the Shelton Brush Harvesters (Washington); Jose Montenegro leading the Latino worker dialogues; Leah Wills and Beth Rose Middleton working on Environmental Justice issues; Mark Baker initiating a North Coast restoration industry study; and Jonathan Kusel focusing on overall Center management and socioeconomic monitoring.

Preparation for the meeting with the Center Advisory Committee was launched in August and includes additional work plan reviews in the context of the 2002 budget and planning the 2003 budget. Currently the PWCFC is slightly under budgeted expenditures for the year.