



Trinity River Restoration Program

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NC-150

MEMORANDUM

TO: TMC Members and Alternates; TAMWG Members; Science Advisory Board

FROM: Doug Schleusner, Executive Director
Trinity River Restoration Program

CC: Staff

SUBJECT: Director's Report; December 15, 2006 – March 28, 2007

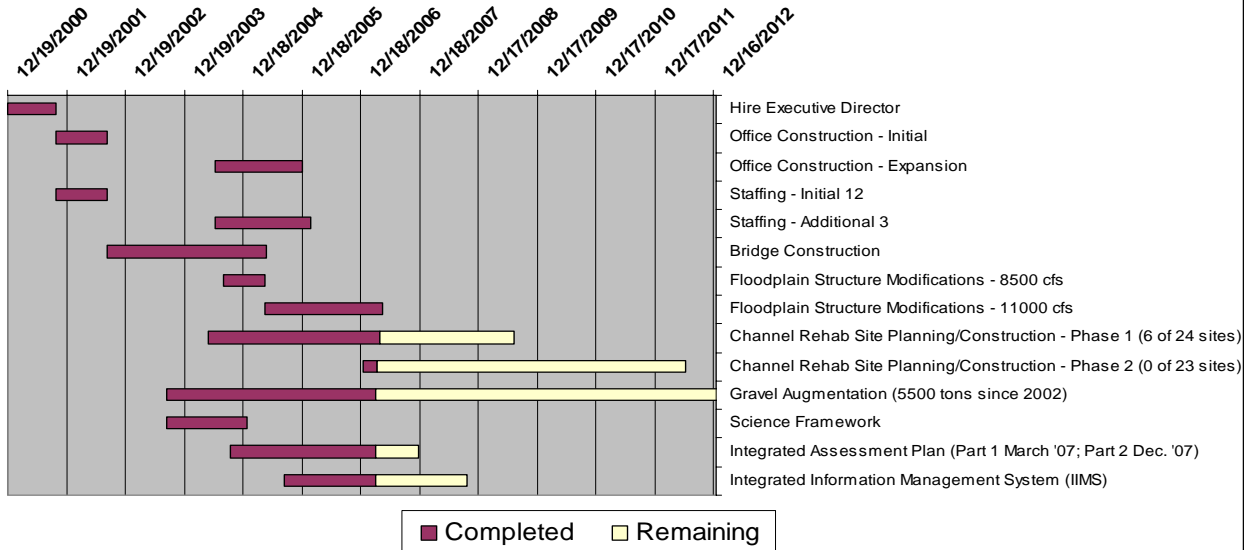
DATE: March 15, 2007

1. **Summary:** Primary areas of emphasis and accomplishments for the TRRP staff and partners during the past quarter have included: 1) responding to comments received on the review draft of Chapters 1-3 of the Integrated Assessment Plan (IAP), including those received from the Science Advisory Board (SAB) during the December 2006 workshop; 2) preparation for and participation in the first annual Science Symposium in February 2007; 3) development and review of the proposed FY2008 budget; 4) continued work on FY2007 financial assistance agreements; 5) coordination with affected landowners to complete “accords, agreements, and satisfactions” necessary for floodplain structure modifications in preparation for spring 2007 dam releases; 6) reviewing and processing applications received under the “Potable Water and Sewage Disposal System Assistance Program,” and 7) continued planning, design, and NEPA/CEQA compliance for the Indian Creek channel rehabilitation site.

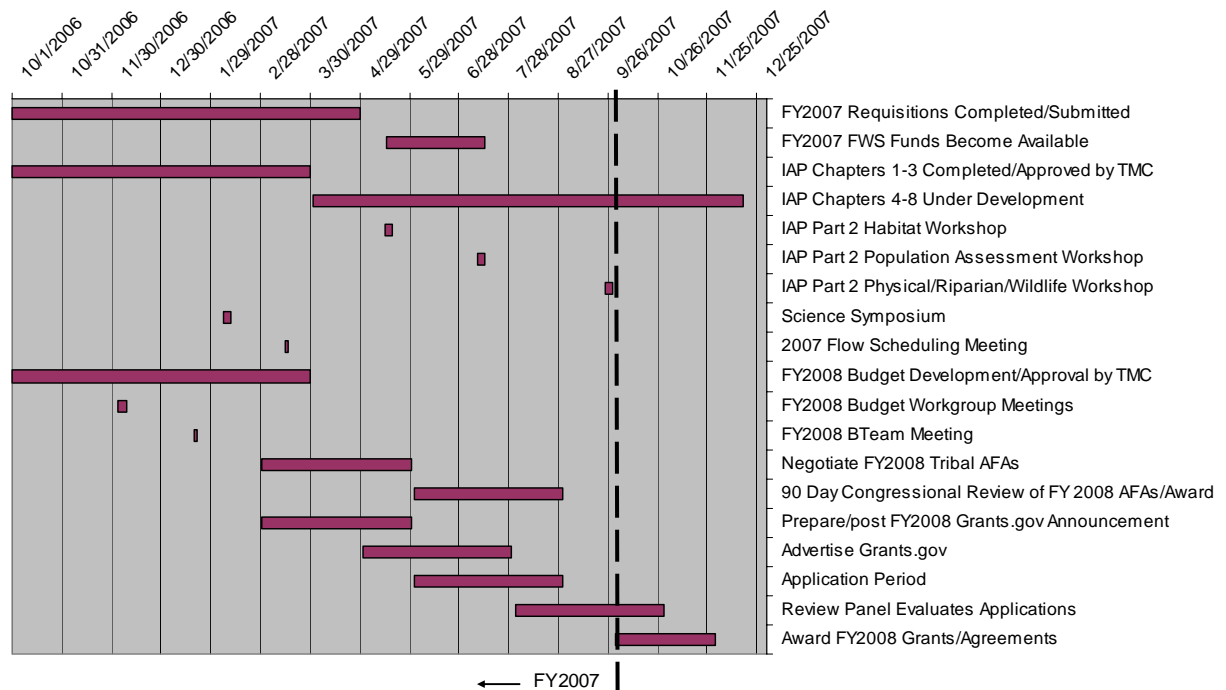
The Gantt charts presented in the previous Director's Report have been updated and expanded to help the TMC monitor the Program's progress and understand the significant work scheduling issues facing us in the coming months. They do not include every project or activity, but focus on those with milestones that have the potential to interact or conflict with other high priority tasks. They are intended to inform the TMC's discussion of workload, priorities, and schedules on March 28-29. More detailed charts are available upon request for many of the individual projects.

Progress of Major TRRP Components

(using December 19, 2000 ROD as starting point)



Major Program Milestones - FY2007



2. General Program Administration:

- FY2007 Budget and Appropriations Status: As of March 16, 2007, the appropriations bill for Energy and Water, along with 10 other departments, had not been signed. The Continuing Resolution (CR) has been extended through September 30, 2007. While this probably means the TRRP will continue to operate at the lowest of three budget levels – FY2006, the House version of FY2007, or the Senate version of FY2007, detailed guidance has not yet been provided. The most likely net effect for the Program is that the \$9.2 million program of work approved by the TMC in September 2006 will continue to be our operating plan for the rest of this fiscal year.
- FY2008 Budget Development: On November 30, 2006, I distributed instructions to staff and partners for implementation of the TMC subcommittee's guidance for the FY2008 budget process. Workgroups met in early December to review a list of potentially feasible subunits and discuss relative priorities for those tasks. The B-Team met twice in January to review and suggest modifications to the workgroup recommendations. Three review packages of interim work products were mailed on January 8, February 13, and March 8. The latter included a response to comments and proposed budget of \$10 million presented to the TAMWG on March 20 and again to the TMC on March 28. The proposal is based on a President's Budget for Reclamation of \$8 million and \$2 million from other sources.

3. Rehabilitation Implementation Branch:

- Floodplain Structures: Approximately 61 applications for the "Potable Water and Sewage Disposal System Assistance Program" have been received, with 56 determined to be eligible. One house near Junction City may still require some type of modification or relocation, but this will not constrain peak flows this year. Negotiations with the landowner are continuing.
- Channel Restoration Sites: The Canyon Creek suite of rehabilitation sites (4) was completed in late November 2006. Revegetation of the sites is currently in progress. This brings the total number of rehab sites constructed to six.

The review period for the Indian Creek Rehab Site EA/EIR supplement ended in February. Engineering designs and contract specifications have been completed, and the federal FONSI/state certification is scheduled for early May. The contract award should occur on/about June 1, with construction following shortly thereafter. This will bring the total number of rehab sites constructed to nine.

The Design Team met several times recently to finalize design concepts for the Dark Gulch/Lewiston 4 rehab sites. This will lead to 50% designs which are necessary for completing the draft EA/EIR on schedule. Approximately four months of contractor earnings (\$1 million, including \$500,000 of DFG grant money) have been included in the proposed FY2008 budget, with the balance of \$700,000 deferred to FY2009. Upon completion in 2009, this would bring the total number of sites constructed to 17.

- Gravel Augmentation: Approximately 10,000 tons of gravel will be placed this year (FY2007), with about 25,000 tons scheduled for each of the next two years.

4. Modeling and Analysis Branch:

- Scientific Framework and Integrated Assessment Plan (IAP): The results of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) IAP review/workshop were summarized by the Steering Committee and shared at the December TAMWG and TMC meetings. A revised and updated Part 1 will be discussed at the March 2007 TAMWG and TMC meetings, with final comments due on March 29. The IAP writing group will meet in early April to review and incorporate those changes.
- Flow Scheduling: The IDTeam met on March 14 to review the latest water year forecast information and to discuss possible options to the ROD defined hydrographs/release schedules for both Dry and Normal water years. After an initial (early February) forecast that was solidly in the Dry range, several mid-February storms pushed projected inflow to Trinity Reservoir to within 25,000 acre-feet of a Normal year classification. Since then it has been dry, with little or no precipitation predicted in the near future. The final water year determination will be announced on/about April 9.
- IIMS: The Integrated Information Management System (IIMS) is showing substantial progress, with at least nine data sets established and populated (including streamflow and temperatures, redd counts, and realty information) containing over one million records. Budget and sediment data sets, along with GIS functions, are the next scheduled tasks.
- Science Symposium: The first annual TRRP Science Symposium was held at the Victorian Inn in Weaverville on February 7-9. About 45 presentations were given, with an average daily attendance of about 75. Nearly 125 individuals registered over the three day session. Abstracts and PowerPoint presentations along with symposium notes are now posted on the website at www.trrp.net/science/2007scienceSymposium.htm .

5. Recent Events and Meetings (Periodically refer to website calendar for updates):

- December 19 - IAP Writing Group Meeting, Weaverville
- January 10-12, 2007 - IAP Writing Group: Part 1 Workshop, Arcata
- January 19 & 23 – B-Team/ID-Team Meeting, Weaverville
- February 6-9 - Science Symposium, Weaverville
- February 23 - IAP Writing Group conference call
- March 14 – IDTeam/Flow Scheduling Meeting, Weaverville
- March 15 – Fry Utilization Study Plan Meeting, Weaverville
- March 19-20 - TAMWG Meeting, Weaverville
- March 28-29 - TMC Meeting, Arcata

6. Upcoming Events (Periodically refer to website calendar for updates):

- April 4 – Physical Workgroup Meeting, Weaverville
- April 11 – IDTeam/Flow Scheduling Meeting, Weaverville
- April 16-20 – IAP Writing Workshop (exact dates/location TBD)
- April 23 – Fish and Riverine Ecology Workgroup Meeting, Weaverville
- June 19-20 - (tentative) TAMWG Meeting, Weaverville
- June 26-27 - (tentative) TMC Meeting, Weaverville