

Public Meeting Notes

TRINITY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Thursday, January 18th, 2024

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. PDT

MS Teams Video Conference

The meeting commenced at 10 a.m.

Trinity Management Council (TMC) Members in Attendance (1/18)

Name	Representative Seat
Don Bader	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Core, Chair
Michael Dixon	USBR, Trinity River Restoration Project (TRRP) Director
Liam Gogan	Trinity County (TC) Core
Tim Hayden	Yurok Tribe Fisheries Program (YTFP) Core
Justin Ly	National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Core
Mike Orcutt	Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries Department (HVTFD) Core
Kyle De Julio	YTFP Core Alternate
Radley Ott	California Natural Resources Agency Department of Water Resources (CNRA-DWR) Core
Bill Pinnix	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Core
Keli McElroy	U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Core

Others in Attendance: Kiana Abel (TRRP), Todd Buxton (TRRP), Carter Brown (DOI SOL), Jennifer Hutchinson (USFWS), Deanna Jackson, Christopher Laskodi (YTFP), Jeanne Mcsloy (USBR), Eric Peterson (USBR), Oliver Rogers (USBR), Derek Rupert (USBR), Elliot Sarnacki (USBR), Ty Wallin (USFWS), Amber Carmen (Trinity River Watershed Alliance), Cory Inouye (Indian Creek Loge, Trinity River Watershed Alliance), Arielle Gervasi (Member of the Public), Heidi Carpenter Harris (TC), Justin Alvarez (HVTFD), Morgan Knechtle (CDFW), Brett Kormos (CDFW), Justin LaNier (DWR), Kenneth Lindke (CDFW), Trent Tuthill (TC), David Steinhauser (Trinity River Rafting), Emelia Barnum (USBR), Don Hansen, Adam Witt, Seth Naman (NOAA), James Lee (USBR), Justin Alvarez (HVTFD).

Notes: Aspen Howard (Chloeta), Lillie Keener (Chloeta).

Welcome and Introductions (Don Bader)

Attendees are listed above. Any omission of attendees outside of the TMC is accidental and regretful.

- Tim Hayden is on standby for a tribal retreat obligation during the call. If needed, Kyle De Juilio will represent Yurok during the time of Hayden's absence.
- Proposed Winter Flow Variability Recommendation from the Flow Workgroup, submitted by Ken Lindke in the previous week.
 - Don Bader reminds everyone that the Department of Interior (DOI) has the ultimate decision-making authority regarding issues discussed in the public forum. Under the Record of Decision (ROD) in 2000, the TMC will make recommendations based on the best available science and information.

Comments on Non-agenda Items (Don Bader)

Public Comment

Don Bader opens the floor for public comments on non-agenda items.

Amber Carmen, from Trinity River Watershed Alliance (TRWA), spent last summer and fall going to local businesses influenced by the Trinity River watershed in Lewiston, Douglas City, around the lake, and downriver along the corridors. She received letters of feedback and financial statements representing how water years and usage affect local businesses in this area. She states that less water and less sports fishermen correlates to less revenue for Trinity businesses. Carmen offers this information up for planning purposes and invites individuals to reach out to her for more information.

Bader closes the public comment period.

Proposed Winter Flow Variability Recommendation from the Flow Workgroup (Don Bader)

Bader recalls the discussions from the December TMC meeting in Redding, and notes that the proposal was a big accomplishment over the holiday break for action consideration.

TMC Comments

Bader opens the floor for comments by TMC Representatives.

Liam Gogan and Justin Ly thanked everyone for their hard work on the proposal over the holidays.

Mike Orcutt wanted to emphasize the FWG's proposal and that it was their version of Interior taking advice. The action entity is reflected in what was said in the last meeting when no action was taken in the September meeting for the flow schedule. He states that it emulated the Trinity 2000 ROD. Orcutt recalls that Justin Ly from NOAA Fisheries made the motion which failed, but it does not mean that whatever is proceeding is contrary to the ROD. His understanding is to keep the 300 CFS baseline if no action is taken by the TMC during the winter months.

Q. By Mike Orcutt: How much public involvement is in a special meeting like this? It was not clear to me in the invite.

A. By Mike Dixon: It was shifted from a monthly informational call to a special TMC meeting. It was posted on the website, updated through the calendar invites, and circulated through the newsletter on social media.

Trinity County (Liam Gogan)

Gogan references the recent back and forth regarding the winter variable flows by Trinity County, the workgroup, and the TMC since December. He states that Trinity has looked over the current proposal given by the FWG, and that Trinity County is not in favor of moving forward as it lacks a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review to encapsulate the economic loss to Trinity River and the people along the corridor. He also mentions that there is lack of funding for studies to monitor and analyze the invertebrate and out-migrating fork length.

Bader asks for clarification on if there were Trinity County representatives involved in the making of the current winter flow variability proposal. Gogan affirms that Tom Stokely, Joe Polos, Trent Tuthill and Patrick Flynn were all on the team for Trinity.

Gogan continues by saying there needs to be more work done before implementation of the FWG's proposal to avoid unforeseen circumstances. He references past projects that were conducted without knowing if there was water available for them to proceed. Gogan represents that there were some aspects of the proposal that Trinity supports, but without a NEPA in place, they are not willing to move forward at this time. He states that there was a NEPA started back in 2021, but that it was not complete for an unknown reason. He represents that Trinity feels it is necessary to have NEPA to move forward.

Radley Ott is curious why they did not have these conversations back in December regarding Trinity's hesitations to accept the proposal. He expresses that he thought the TMC was deliberate and thoughtful to include the pertinent issues to bring Trinity County in agreement to the current winter flow variability recommendation. He expresses his frustration and questions why these dealbreakers were not brought up in December.

Q. By Radley Ott: Why did we not discuss the NEPA issue or the invertebrate studies back in the quarterly December TMC meeting?

A. By Liam Gogan: It took time for Trinity County to review the alternative proposals with the back and forth of alternate proposals over the holidays. There has been quite a bit of discussion between Trinity County members and the restoration program up until the meeting.

Q. By Radley Ott: Do we need a NEPA review/invertebrate study for the approval of the Winter Flow Variability proposal, or has it already been covered through other actions?

A. By Mike Dixon: Last year, we implemented a winter flow action under the authority of the ROD on the advice of our legal counsel. This is deemed permissible per Page 3 of the ROD, with the first mention of the TMC in the entire ROD that describes their role in relative to adaptive management:

“The selected alternative also includes an Adaptive Environmental Assessment and Management (AEAM) Program. The AEAM Program, guided by a Trinity Management Council (TMC) established as part of this decision and by sound scientific principles, will ensure the proper implementation of these measures, conduct appropriate scientific monitoring and evaluation efforts, and recommend possible adjustments to the annual flow schedule within the designated flow volumes provided for in this ROD or other measures in order to ensure that the restoration and maintenance of the Trinity River anadromous fishery continues based on the best available scientific information and analysis.”

- USDI (U.S. Department of Interior). 2000. Record of Decision, Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report. December 2000. U.S. Department of Interior, Washington D.C.
- Available: <https://www.trrp.net/library/document?id=227>

Dixon continues by saying that USBR implemented this action based on an understanding from their legal counsel that they had coverage under the existing ROD under the adaptive management framework on which the program was established. He represents that some initial NEPA was done on the winter flow proposal back in 2021, soliciting public comment in preparation for finalizing an environmental assessment on the original winter flow proposal. They were directed that the additional NEPA was not required, so it was shelved. Dixon goes on by saying the DOI will always comply with federal law and policy. Finalizing a NEPA document is still an open question, but if it has been advised by legal counsel that the existing NEPA document may be updated because it is within the bounds of the original proposed action. Dixon states further that NEPA is an analysis and disclosure process that is required by federal law for major federal actions, that it is not germane to TMC's decision making but under the DOI's discretion whether further analysis is required to satisfy NEPA obligations.

Ly expresses disappointment to hear that the County is not supportive of the efforts of the FWG, and states that it represents bad faith negotiations. Gogan responds by saying Trinity came back with alternatives to the proposal, but it was still not what the County was looking for despite good faith efforts. Gogan states there needs to be more funding for analysis and monitoring before implementation of any process. He is appreciative of the work already done and is open to alternatives.

Ly adds that the adaptive management program laid out in the ROD recommends flow adjustments to ensure that the restoration and maintenance of the Trinity River anadromous fishery continues based on the best available science. The main goal of the program is to restore the fishery, and accommodating economics too much will compromise the best available science and not meet the objective of restoring the fishery.

Gogan states he works for the fish, as well as the County and its power production. Whatever the economic loss turns out to be, it is significant to Trinity County. They are hesitant to move forward with the proposal but are willing to rework the proposal.

Ly stated that he inquired about the analysis on economic loss that was done for Trinity County but did not get a response. Gogan states that without NEPA being done, he does not have a firm number but estimates it to be somewhere above \$1 million.

Seth Naman wanted to add that Trent Tuthill (TC's Administrative Officer) and Patrick Flynn (TC's Technical Representative) were both at the flow schedule development meeting for the memo. Naman states that the proposal was formulated to fit all of Trinity County's needs, such as peaks being on weekdays to avoid high fishing and base flow parameters. He agrees with Ly that it raises questions about TC's negotiations and motivations. Gogan refers to Trent Tuthill and Patrick Flynn, but they do not respond.

Ott suggests a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or funding the invertebrate study regarding Gogan's concern.

Q. By Radley Ott: Can you describe to me what the big departures are, and Trinity's dislikes of the current FWG's proposal?

A. By Liam Gogan: Trinity County's proposal looked much different than the proposal put forward by TRRP, specifically the peaks. We have concerns about temperature objectives in the summertime. We are ready to go back to the drawing board and talk again.

Ott suggests that someone in the FWG discuss why adjustments were made to the proposal.

Dixon addresses the macroinvertebrate study and says there is ongoing work FY25 science work planning process. There are questions of the relationship between flow and trophic dynamics that are being considered in that. He states a reason to not implement right now is that there are macroinvertebrate studies in this basin, as well as the other side of the hill on the Eel River that are compelling. Dixon says that the concepts and objectives from a food availability standpoint of this action are undergraduate stream ecology textbook knowledge. He expresses that Trinity River is not fundamentally different than other tailwater rivers that are the basis of the fundamental objectives of macroinvertebrate drift and productivity following floodplain inundation, and it should not be a reason not to move forward.

As it relates to summer temperatures, Dixon states that it was considered in the original proposal, and there was an analysis of the number of degree day exceedances that would occur on average across a range of water types based on hindcasting. He states there are some increases in exceedances that start to occur in July. The proposal developed by the FWG is only relevant for critically dry, dry, and normal water years as determined in the March 15th Bulletin 120 (B120). Regardless of whether implementation occurred in winter flows, Dixon believes it would have no impact on summer temperatures because baseflow would be reached in those water year types.

Bader states he is surprised by Trinity County's comments, as he thought everyone was cooperating and everything that Trinity wanted was incorporated into the memo generated by Ken Lindke on behalf of the FWG. He does not want to get into a debate of the differences between the FWG and Trinity's proposal, as he does not believe it to be the proper venue.

Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries Department (Mike Orcutt)

Orcutt expresses the concerns of the Hoopa Valley Tribe during the previous record created and that the law that originally set up the ROD and preferred alternative required the tribe to concur in that decision. Hoopa's primary concern is that they have never been approached for the tribe's concurrence in this decision. He notes that this is why he has inquired about the policies and protocols.

Orcutt further states to the public that the TMC did not get to ROD flows since 2005, and that there is history in the appeals court and political ramifications relative to Interior's position. Since 2004, they have never released water -- except for the baseline 300 CFS, from October 15th to April 1 -- for approximately 20 years. As a student of NEPA, controversy is affecting human environment in terms of NEPA guidelines and completing the EIS in his view.

Orcutt finalizes his statement by saying he lived through the 1964 flood at 6 years old. The increasing flows is not in the analysis of the Trinity River. He was sent a picture about 2 years ago, the vice chairman sent pictures of the Trinity River at Hoopa, and that there were rumors of releasing more water above it, but it was held up because of NEPA, TMC action, and Interior's position. All those things are reason to him for full disclosure, full analysis, and discussing the strengths and weaknesses of past actions.

Orcutt thinks information processes could be improved, and there should be more disclosure when decisions are being made. The Hoopa Tribe's biggest concern is when the ROD was signed because that was historically the largest water shift in the central valley over the last 20 to 30 years. The political environment is a concern for Hoopa as well. If that requires an EIS, Orcutt believes it needs to be done right and fully understood for the best interest of the basin and its people.

Yurok Tribe Fisheries Program (Tim Hayden)

Hayden expressed gratitude for the Flow Work Group's hard work and the input from the technical representatives. From his standpoint, the memo was clear and made a strong effort to consider the constraints and concerns from Trinity County, who participated in the development. He states that the Yurok Tribe believes this is a critical adaptive management action to support restoration of the fishery for the tribe and all stakeholders. The fishery is critically important to the culture and the economy of both the Yurok and Hoopa, who have experienced hardships in the recent year in relation to the fisheries. He wishes to work through components with Trinity County to reach an agreement, and Yurok is strongly in favor of the FWG's proposal.

Public Comments

Bader opens the floor for comments by the public.

In a comment, Amber Carmen states that the dates used for the financial statements were 2/15/23 through 4/14/23 compared to the prior year's same dates. She represents that the trend is the same amongst all the businesses she has encountered, with \$30,000 for one business here, \$16,000 for a business there. Carmen says that from the eighteen (18) businesses she has gotten financials from, there has been well over \$1 million in loss.

Kyle De Juilio says that the public might not be aware of the proposal to make public comments on it. There is discussion among the TMC and the public regarding presenting the Water Year 2024 Revised Winter Flow Variability Recommendation in this meeting. Ultimately, the consensus is to present the document with some hesitations about whether it is the proper venue or not.

Orcutt said the nature of his first question was not responded to, and that proper input, notification, and technical vetting should be put in place, and that there should be more announcement of controversial issues.

Water Year 2024 Revised Winter Flow Variability Recommendation Document Presentation (Ken Lindke)

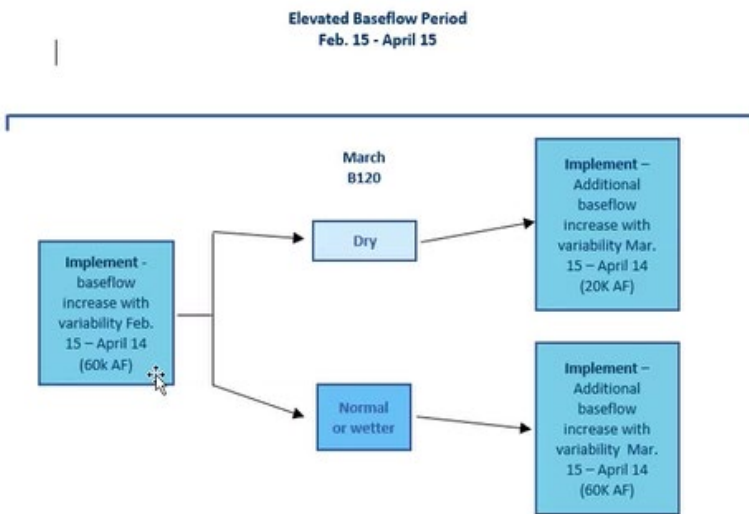
Ken Lindke, the FWG Coordinator, presents the memorandum submitted to the TMC from the FWG regarding the revised winter flow variability recommendation for water year 2024. He showcases the specific guidance provided by Gogan and other Trinity County constituents to meet the County's objectives for recreation:

- From February 15th to March 14th, do not exceed 1,200 CFS release from Lewiston Dam
- Preferred releases are closer to 800 CFS (1,200 and particularly 800 CFS are intended to reduce impacts to fishing opportunity)
- Releases from March 15th to April 14th can exceed 1,200 CFS (an upper limit was not specified)
- WVF release volumes should be scaled to water year type
- No elevated flows should be proposed prior to February 15th
- Any proposal should be accompanied by Decision Support System (DSS) results
- Address concerns regarding protecting carryover storage in Trinity Reservoir

Bader clarifies the last point by saying that the TMC does not want to overshoot the volumes by implementing winter flows. They used a very conservative allotment of water, and that there would never be issues regarding the ROD volumes. It cannot be manipulated any more than what is allowed to be released.

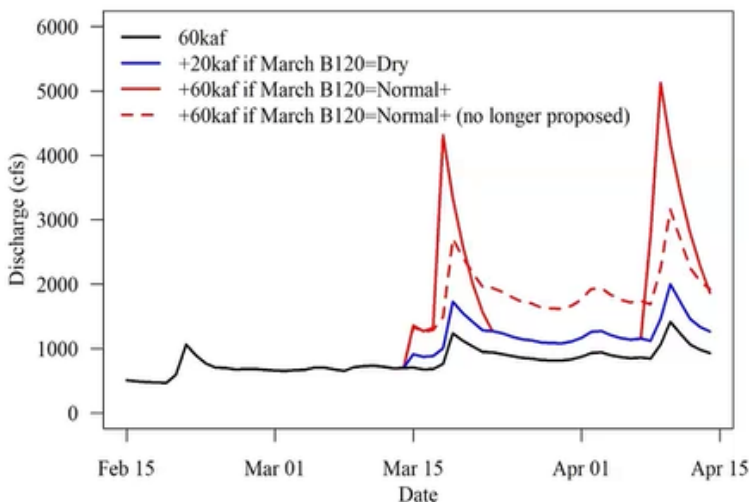
There was a proposal advanced by the County that was in the initial stages of development. The FWG's proposal has been a work in progress for several years, with complex pieces such as to make sure volumes are not overspent.

Lindke presents the decision tree for implementing winter variable flows from February 15th to April 14th, 2024.



The FWG proposed a 60,000-acre foot release starting in mid-February and into mid-April regardless of water year type. This is the minimum volume that was originally proposed to be moved into the winter period. If the water year type is dry, an additional 20,000-acre feet would be added. For normal or wetter types, an additional 60,000-acre feet would be added.

Lindke then presents the proposed hydrograph components for releases from Lewiston Dam from February 15th to April 14th, 2024.



The solid black line depicts a 60,000 acre-feet release that would occur regardless of water year forecast, and the solid blue and red lines depict 20,000- and 60,000-acre-feet releases that would occur if the March B120 forecast is for a dry or normal (or wetter) water year. The dashed red line depicts a 60,000 acre-feet release that was included in the original FWG recommendation that is no longer under consideration.

Lindke showcases the specific ways to meet the requests of the County, as well as other benefits:

- By keeping volumes and partial implementation of the decision tree from the EA, this action would be considered analyzed and would be covered under a signed Finding of no Significant Impacts (FONSI)
- It scales to water year type by considering the March B120, ranging from 60k AF (Critically Dry) to 120k AF (Normal or wetter)

- Based on historic record (2004-2019), the full volume proposed to be moved into winter in WVF project would be archived in 50% of years
- As was well documented in the WVF report, protecting carryover storage in Trinity Reservoir is guaranteed by using the conservative B120 forecast (90% exceedance)
- The predetermined 60k AF release Feb-April would provide certainty now to anglers and river users on flows through mid-March, with only two feasible alternatives increases in March
- Releases remains below 1,200 CFS and almost entirely below 800 CFS through February 15th
- Critically Dry March B120 forecast would provide 28 days less than 1,200 CFS (3 days above)
- Dry March B120 (+20k AF) forecast would provide 16 days less than 1,200 CFS
- Normal or wetter March B120 forecast would provide more fishing opportunity (11 days less than 1,200 CFS vs. zero) compared to previous WVF proposal.
- Releases would be 872 or 1,169 CFS on April 1st for the fly water opener (would have been up to 1764 CFS).
- Peaks are scheduled to occur on weekdays to reduce impacts to angling (assuming more angling occurs on weekends).

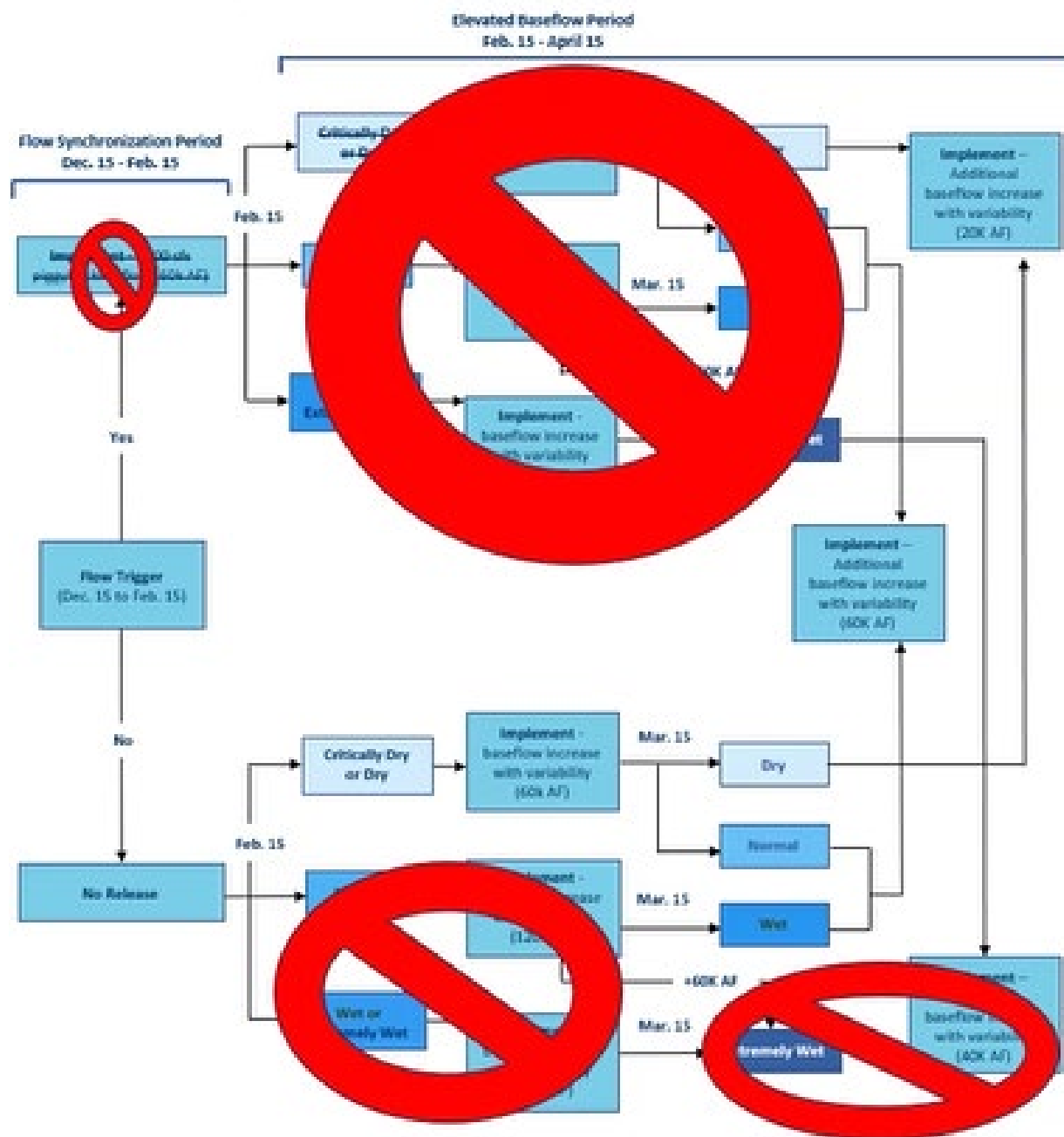
Lindke continues by saying there were analyses pulled directly from the winter flow report instead of analyzing the DSS because the DSS is focused on objectives specific to the spring release period. What was analyzed in the winter flow report is focused on the time period of the proposed action. This is thought to be much more relevant to understanding effects on biology, and more extensive than the effects of the DSS.

Lindke skims through the “Planned Monitoring” section of the document that showcases the monitoring efforts that are currently in place except for the last bullet point, listed below:

- Benthic macroinvertebrate (BMI) samples were taken and analyzed in inundated floodplains during WY23 WVF implementation to directly measure the effects of WVF on food web development. The analysis is ongoing, and sample collection is planned for WY24 if elevated winter baseflows are implemented again. Sample processing and analysis would need additional funding, and a solicitation for the additional work is currently in development.

There is already a commitment for the program scientists to collect the samples with no extra cost from the TMC. They will be asking for money to analyze samples and report on them in FY25.

Lindke finishes the presentation by showcasing a diagram that specifies all potential adjustments to winter flows volumes to release prior to the spring flow period that commences on April 16th. If the projected full natural flow at the 90th percentile changes between the February 1 and March 1 B120 projections in a way that is not shown, no adjustments to the release volume from the February allocation are made.



TMC/Public Comments

Eric Peterson states there is monitoring in place for juvenile fish and BMI. The BMI is not long term, but there is monitoring planned for this winter and spring. There has been no request from the scientists in charge for those monitoring projects for additional requests for funding.

Q. By Amber Carmen: Is this proposal going to be reevaluated next year or is this a 5-year plan?

A. By Mike Dixon: Until we have a new ROD that says otherwise, we propose a hydrograph every year. It is an annual determination.

A. By Ken Lindke: As it stands, this is a proposal just for WY24. It starts in October and goes on until September of 2024.

Q. By Amber Carmen: What happens if we get a major rain event in February to April in a wet year?

A. By Eric Peterson: We would be on the red solid line, normal or wetter.

A. By Mike Dixon: We would be constrained by maximum fisheries flow numbers at locations within the upper 40 miles to prevent flooding of permitted infrastructure. In other words, if there was enough tributary accretion to cause flooding concerns, we would scale back dam releases.

A. By Ken Lindke: We are required to remain below maximum fishery flows. The 40 miles from Lewiston to North Fork is broken up into sections with maximum flows allowed, specifically intended to protect infrastructure. If we see in advance that a storm is a lot bigger than predicted, they are required by law to dial this back and can shut it back down to 300 CFS release in real time to prevent flooding.

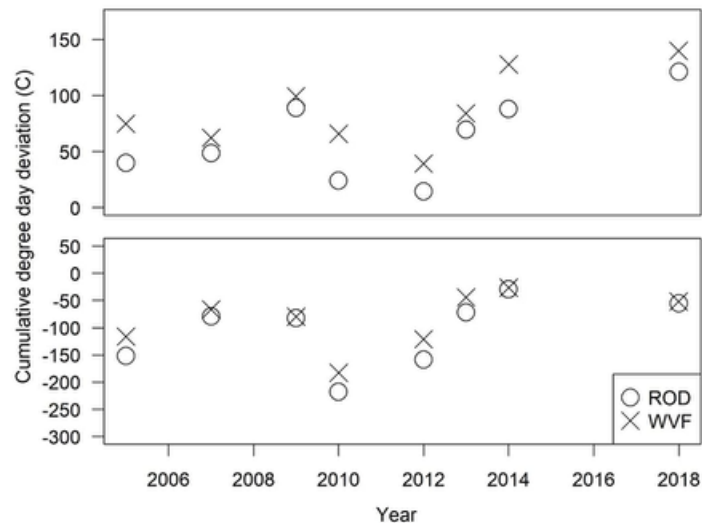
For legal clarity, Dixon adds that there are self-imposed maximum fisheries flows limits to not cause flooding of infrastructure with Restoration releases, but flood control is not a purpose of Trinity Dam. The BOR is not liable for flooding resulting from releases from Trinity Dam with legal rationale but for the dam, the flooding would have been more severe. Through Restoration releases, they cannot cause flooding, but it does not mean the BOR would not release water that could result in flooding. Trinity does not have a legal flood control purpose. Ken emphasizes that flows can be manipulated under emergency conditions to preserve the integrity of the dam, so it does not fail. Dixon adds the last time flooding occurred as a result of Trinity not taking action was in 1997, but it was one of largest storms on record and it was required.

Q. By Justin Ly: Can you elaborate if this proposal will increase summer water temperatures for salmonids, as well as for the fall?

A. By Ken Lindke: In the fall, we are at baseflow under all scenarios. The only thing that would affect temperatures at that time of year is reservoir levels and atmospheric conditions. Because the ROD mandates particular volumes by water year type, those volumes are going to be released regardless of what the flow schedule is. Those differences have no effect whatsoever on reservoir levels. Other operations of the reservoir by Reclamation does affect water levels, but it is different from releases to the river. There is not a way in which they could influence temperatures in the fall.

In normal and wetter years, we are already down at baseflow in July, even with modified spring releases. By the time you are at baseflow, the temperature will be the same

between a winter flow release or a traditional spring release. One of the main objectives of this proposal is to get water out of the spring so that the river temperatures can be ideal for fish growth. Elevated levels in the spring can make the water too cold for fish growth.



Lindke showcases a timeseries of degree day deviations of juvenile rearing temperature targets for the Trinity River at the North Fork Trinity River, April 1st to July 31st, for revised winter variable flow (WVF) recommendation and ROD flows. The upper panel shows cumulative exceedances above the upper target of 16.5° C, and the lower panel shows cumulative deviations below the lower target of 13.0° C.

Ly clarifies that this proposed winter flow has no water temperatures changes from the traditional ROD in the summer and fall. In the spring, it would have beneficial warming of the water temperatures because it is too cold when peak flows are released in the spring.

From summer on, there would be no difference between action and no action. Lindke affirms.

Naman states that the TRRP has developed new water temperature standards for spawning adult salmon and steelhead, which reduces the temperature targets in the fall. He also mentions that the TRRP has substantial monitoring in place, and that the County has a technical representative for collaborative meetings. This representative can request and advocate for more monitoring on behalf of Trinity County if desired. Gogan responds by saying there was not back and forth between the County and the FWG. They are still concerned about NEPA and other concerns before approval.

Naman states further that analyses and temperature modeling have been completed. County officials Patrick Flynn and Trent Tuthill helped in developing this proposal, so it does not ring true to him when Gogan states the County has not had a chance to fully review the memorandum.

Orcutt states there are differences between the roles of a technical representative and TMC representative, which could explain the reason for Gogan's outlook of the FWG's memorandum.

Orcutt advocates for a motion and vote due to time constraints.

Motion

Motion: Ott motions to accept the proposal by the FWG as submitted.

Second: Pinnix seconds.

Friendly Amendment: Juilio moves to dismiss the ~~motion~~ *proposal* with no alternative.

Ott does not accept the friendly amendment.

The Friendly Amendment does not pass.

Outcome:

Don Bader (USBR): Yes

Kelly McElroy (USFS): Yes

Bill Pinnix (USFWS): Yes

Mike Orcutt (Hoopa Valley Tribe): No

Raddley Ott (CAPWR): Yes

Liam Gogan (Trinity County): No

Justin Ly (NOAA Fisheries): Abstain

Kyle De Juilio (Yurok Tribe): Yes

The vote does not pass 5 to 2, with 1 abstention.

Orcutt emphasizes that his motion vote was based upon Hoopa Valley Tribe's previous comments on concurrence.

Closing Statements (Don Bader)

Bader expresses appreciation again for the FWG's proposal. The next monthly TMC meeting for discussion will be in February of 2024.

Ott wanted to ensure that the FWG has enough direction. He emphasizes that the FWG is supposed to be evaluating the baseflow of 300 CFS. Bader affirms that the baseline from the ROD will be followed. Until the April 1st 50% forecast is available, the 300 CFS will remain. If the water year is questionable, the FWG will usually prepare two hydrographs for the TMC to consider at the March meeting.

Amber Carmen comments that she believes there has not been enough monitoring of the river in all aspects, and states that the TRWA has always been an advocate of more monitoring. Seth Naman points Amber Carmen to the TRRP's website for data points on flow and temperatures: <https://www.trrp.net/library/document/?id=2615>

The meeting adjourned at 12 p.m.