

Teleconference Summary (Draft Date March 15, 2011)

Date / Time: March 8, 2011 / 9:00 a.m.

Participants: Texas State University – Thom Hardy
 USGS Fort Collins - Sam Williamson
 USGS Columbia River Research Laboratory - Russell Perry
 Reclamation - Eric Peterson
 USFWS - Nick Hetrick, Joe Polos, Tom Shaw, Ernie Clarke

Background: Eric and Ernie have been working with Thom to provide the data Thom needs to deliver on an existing agreement with the Trinity River Restoration Program (Program). That exercise provoked the question: does Thom's agreement align with current Program needs? Also: how does Thom's work relate to Sam Williamson's?

Teleconference goal: Get modelers that have been collaborating on the Klamath River on the same page relative to what has been accomplished on the Trinity River.
 Discuss the alternative approaches for predictive modeling in the Program.

Discussion: Thom suggested how he might be able to use his time to assist the program:
 (1) fish production modeling effort and / or (2) providing his expertise in 2D modeling to support some of the efforts that are ongoing in the Program, especially the tasks being undertaken by the habitat assessment group.

Plan to move forward:

1. Collecting background information:
 - a. Circulate existing agreements to develop common understanding of ongoing work (Ernie)
 - b. Models – what has been done or planned? Complete the spreadsheet Sam provided Nina. (Eric)
2. Workshop planning and implementation:
 - a. Workshop – included in the FY 2011 science workplan; Thom could facilitate; Joe, Tim Hayden, George Kaustky, Ernie, and Eric could serve as a workshop steering committee; Goal: to address the question of the need of the fish production model. The Integrated Assessment Plan (IAP) identified the following question: Is there a need for a fish production model for the Trinity (update w new data sets, do exploratory analyses of alternative actions and hypotheses)? The IAP recommended: have a workshop with independent experts to assess benefits and costs of different kinds of modeling efforts. Include both modelers and empiricists. (Lead: Joe)
3. Fiscal year 2012 – begin to implement plan that emerged from the workshop:
 - a. Will need resources to follow through on results of 2011 workshop. Since this item isn't defined for the fiscal year 2012 work plan, Ernie proposes a placeholder (Ernie).