



Trinity River Restoration Program

P.O. Box 1300, 1313 South Main Street, Weaverville, California 96093
Telephone: 530-623-1800, Fax: 530-626-5944

April 2, 2013

Brian Person, Chair
Trinity Management Council
c/o Trinity River Restoration Program
P.O. Box 1300
Weaverville, CA 96093

Dear Mr. Person:

The Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG) met on April 1, 2013. This letter serves to provide you with a summary of that meeting along with our resulting policy management recommendations, as required by the TAMWG's Bylaws.

At the beginning of our meeting we held elections, during which time I was reelected as the TAMWG Chair, and Tom Stokely was elected as our Vice Chair; these positions are valid for one-year. Please adjust your records accordingly.

TAMWG received an update from the TRRP Executive Director, the status of the various Trinity River Restoration Project (TRRP) workgroups, the current state of the 2013 channel rehabilitation designs, as well as plans for beginning to develop the 2014 and 2015 designs. We learned about the current status of the budget, the impacts of sequestration and associated travel restrictions. In fact, in an effort to adjust to these new requirements, many of the TAMWG members participated in this meeting by webcast.

We learned that 2013 will most likely be classified as a dry water year. We were presented with the 2013 Trinity River flow release consensus recommendation from the flow workgroup along with a dissenting opinion from Dave Gaeuman and Andreas Krause. After much discussion, it appeared that a sufficient option combining all of the positions and objectives presented to us was not available and so **the TAMWG recommends that the Trinity Management Council (TMC) approve the ROD Dry Year Hydrograph with the descending benches needed for habitat assessment monitoring.**

During an update on 2013 gravel injections, the TAMWG learned that due to the dry year status, Dave Gaeuman is now suggesting that the amount of gravel be reduced from 2,000 to 1,000 cubic yards at the diversion pool with none being needed at the Lowden site. Since we believe this new assessment supports our prior recommendation to the TMC in that all high flow gravel injections for 2013 occur at the Lewiston Weir site only, **we recommend that the TMC accept Gaeuman's recommendation of 1,000 cubic yards of gravel at the Diversion pool with none at Lowden.**

During an update of the Phase 1 review, we learned that TRRP staff has been working on an analysis of implementing the Decision Support System (DSS) being suggested to the Science Advisory Board. **The TAMWG recommends that the TMC support the TRRP moving forward with developing a DSS.**

Finally, please note that our next meeting will be held on June 25, 2013. On behalf of the TAMWG, I am available to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Elizabeth Hadley', written over a horizontal line.

Elizabeth Hadley, Chair
Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group



Trinity River Restoration Program

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JAN 30 2013

Ms. Elizabeth Hadley
Chairman
Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group
City of Redding Electric Utility
777 Cypress Ave
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: Response to Your Letter of January 14, 2013

Dear Chairman Hadley:

Thank you for your letter summarizing the proceedings of the January 10-11, 2013, Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG) meeting and offering several recommendations. It was my pleasure to join you for a portion of the meeting to provide a Trinity Management Council (TMC) update and answer several questions posed by TAMWG members.

In the interest of clarity, I will paraphrase below each of the recommendations presented in bold font in your letter, followed by our response.

1. **...request that the TMC develop a mechanism for including the TAMWG's input into the next draft of the Phase I Report.**

The TMC discussed this recommendation at length at its January 16-17 meeting, during which several members expressed the importance of receiving and integrating comments from the TAMWG to the extent practicable, with some provisos. They include: assuring that TAMWG members refrain from sharing draft Phase I Review documents with anyone outside the TAMWG; limiting comments to only those technical in nature; compiling and submitting comments to the TMC (and subsequently to the Science Advisory Board (SAB)) exclusively through you as Chair; and recognizing that the TMC and/or the SAB may not integrate or respond to all comments submitted.

2. **...TAMWG supports the design team's efforts to encourage and include stakeholder input into the design process.**

Similarly, TMC members expressed the importance of transparency to the public in the overall design process. We did also, however, engage in a lengthy discussion focused on assuring design objectives for

Trinity Management Council

Brian Person, Chair, Bureau of Reclamation – Ann Garrett, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration-Fisheries
Sharon Heywood, USDA Forest Service - Mike Orcutt, Hoopa Valley Tribe - Dave Hillemeier, Yurok Tribe –
Curtis Milliron, California Department of Fish and Game - Roger Jaegel, Trinity County
Nancy Finley, US Fish & Wildlife Service – Robin Schrock, Executive Director

each site are initially established by Program staff and the respective design team, in maintaining the foundational goals for restoring the river. A formal motion was unanimously approved, advising that design teams will: determine design objectives for a particular site; develop conceptual designs meeting those objectives; share those concepts with stakeholders for their review; and consider stakeholder recommendations to the extent their inclusion would not unduly compromise meeting the primary design objectives.

3. ...TAMWG unanimously approved that high-flow gravel injections for 2013 occur at the Lewiston Weir site only.

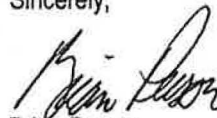
In deliberating this recommendation, TMC members cited information from the channel morphology presentation by Dave Gaeuman, which demonstrates that in virtually all sites studied, the influence of gravel injection on deep pools is quite localized. We also referenced the recommendation by the Physical Work Group, as well as the SAB comments on the importance of addressing the gravel deficit within the river corridor. Although the TMC thoroughly and carefully considered the TAMWG's recommendation, a motion was passed approving the Physical Work Group's recommendation to inject 2,000 cubic yards of gravel at the Lewiston Weir and 1,000 cubic yards at Lowden Ranch.

4. ...TAMWG recommends that the TMC consider accepting Mr. Wellock's claim for impact to his irrigation water system only, to help assure good public relations...and that the TMC develop a policy to ensure precedent is not set by looking at similar issues on a case-by-case basis.

You'll recall from my presentation at the TAMWG meeting that since Mr. Wellock's Tort Claim was denied by the Office of the Solicitor, the Bureau of Reclamation is now considering Mr. Wellock's claim under a separate authority. The TMC recommended that no formal action be taken on the TAMWG motion until that process has reached an outcome, and will discuss Mr. Wellock's concern further then if it remains unresolved.

Again, thank you for your letter. We greatly appreciate the guidance and insights provided by the TAMWG.

Sincerely,



Brian Person

Chairman, Trinity Management Council

cc: Ms. Nancy Finley
Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1655 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521

cc: Continued on next page.

Subject: Response to June 18, 2012 TAMWG Letter

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Continued from previous page.

cc: Mr. Curtis Milliron
California Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust St.
Redding, CA 96001

Ms. Ann Garrett
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1655 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521

Mr. Mike Orcutt
Director
Fisheries Department
Hoopa Valley Tribe
P.O. Box 417
Hoopa, CA 95556

Mr. Dave Hillemeier
Director
Fisheries Department
Yurok Tribe of California
P.O. Box 1027
Klamath, CA 95548

Ms. Sharon Heywood
Supervisor
Shasta-Trinity National Forest
U.S. Forest Service
3644 Avtech Parkway
Redding, CA 96002

Mr. Roger Jaegel
Trinity County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 1613
Weaverville, CA 96093

March 31, 2013

Trinity Management Council
C/o Trinity River Restoration Program
P.O. Box 1300
Weaverville, CA 96093

Dear Council Members:

We are writing to ask for your consideration in implementing the proposed Indian Creek Bank Naturalization Project. As you may be aware, we have been pursuing a resolution for the erosion and loss of private property issues in this area for over five frustrating years. Due to that frustration we obtained legal counsel last year to assist us. This letter is outside that purview.

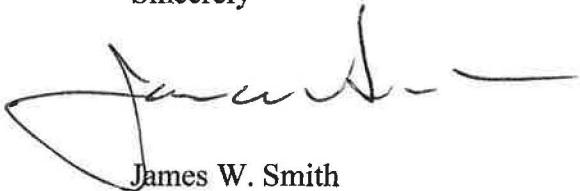
As a brief background, certain design elements in the original 2007 Indian Creek Project have exacerbated bank erosion issues causing significant loss of private property and riparian habitat along the river bank bordering our properties. In the last three years TRRP staff began working closely with us for resolution of which the proposed Indian Creek Bank Naturalization Project resulted.

The goal of the project is in alignment with river restoration efforts, to restore the riparian corridor along that portion of the river currently covered by non-native grasses and a few cottonwood trees. The project site encompasses not only private but state and federal properties. The proposed Bank Naturalization project design elements are similar to those in other current TRRP projects and are supported by the goals and measurement metrics recently adopted by the TRRP team.

It is our understanding that the TRRP design team is in agreement that the project has merit but feels it may be too small in scope. We believe differently. Although the proposed project site may be smaller in area than most, we believe the chances for a successful outcome, in terms of revegetation performance are greater and may affect a relatively larger area than perhaps other less successful previously built revegetation project elements. We feel there are a number of reasons that support this position. This area has been studied and evaluated by TRRP staff and consultants over a number of years and is perhaps better understood than many proposed sites. The site is readily accessible year around and irrigation is easily available. The stewardship provided by the private landowners would contribute to its continued success. The project is fully designed and implementation ready. Additionally, the smaller scope and subsequent costs may fill a niche during times of limited funding.

For the reasons above we ask that you consider implementation of this project. We are aware that public opinion for restoration efforts has been waning partly due to issues similar to ours. We feel this type of private/public partnership would go a long ways towards resolving those concerns.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James W. Smith', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

James W. Smith
Po Box 52
Douglas City, CA 96024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Dickerson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Daniel Dickerson
Po Box 432
Douglas City CA 96024

Cc: Ms. Elizabeth Hadley
Chairman
Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group
Redding Electric Utility
777 Cypress Ave
Redding, CA 96001



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Memorandum

To: Brian Person, Chair of the Trinity Management Council (TMC)
From: DJ Bandrowski, Implementation Branch Chief/Design Team WG Coordinator
Subject: Indian Creek Bank Naturalization Project
Date: March 29th, 2013

This memo is to inform the TMC in writing that the TRRP Design Team Work Group (Design Team) reached a technical consensus recommendation for the Indian Creek Bank Naturalization Project (ICP) during its last quarterly meeting, held on February 20th, 2013. This was brought to the TMC's attention during the last TMC conference call on March 14th, 2013. The technical recommendation by the Design Team to the TMC is the following:

“While we (Design Team) do not recommend the program (TRRP) fund the ICP, we would encourage the landowners to utilize the design as they see fit. The design has merit but does not provide enough habitat gain for us to recommend it outright. The TMC is asked to decide if the Program should act on such a project.”

Even though the Design Team is not recommending that the TMC move this project toward implementation, the Design Team recognizes that the design could be implemented by the landowners. Over the last year, through the design process there has been several products developed that are a direct benefit to the private landowners at Indian Creek including:

- Design/Construction Drawings 100% completed and stamped by PE license (Cardno-ENTRIX)
- Full Design Report containing robust analyses for revegetation, physical, and biological components
- Two-Dimensional (2D) hydraulic and BSTEM bank stability modeling report (Cardno-ENTRIX)
- Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS) (NEPA/CEQA) for 2013 Implementation (Currently in 30 day public review period, permits anticipated for June 2013)

The Design Team has been purposeful not to engage in political or legal issues regarding the ICP. It is understood by the Design Team workgroup members that the TMC will consider the above technical recommendation in making their final decision. The proceeding page contains general project timeline/milestones regarding the ICP.

Timeline/Milestone Dates Regarding the Indian Creek Bank Naturalization Project:

- Indian Creek Channel Rehabilitation project planning began in 2006 and the project was implemented in the summer/fall of 2007, working in collaboration with private/public landowners
- The R-5 design feature (in-channel excavation of a mid channel bar was removed from the final design during the environmental compliance process in 2006) was designed to induce meander and enhance spawning habitat. It was determined not necessary to meet project goals and removed from the design before implementation
- 2007 Indian Creek Channel Rehab project was constructed
- Proceeding 2007 implementation erosion occurred within the original R-5 area of Indian Creek
- 2008 a large willow tree fell on Mr. Smith/Dickerson property and the program removed the tree with the assistance of civil contractor that was working on the Lewiston/Dark Gulch (2008) project
- 2011 high flow (~11,000 cfs) year, additional erosion was observed
- 2011 Bank Naturalization Project was suggested by TRRP Weaverville staff and discussed by the Design Team in fall of 2011
- Design team suggested that a landscape architect be contracted to design the project in context to increasing habitat with a balance between view shed and riparian plantings; Cardno-ENTRIX was contracted by the TRRP for design services
- Fall 2011 and summer 2012 designs were developed and draft products were reviewed by Design Team, Riparian Workgroup and private landowners
- July 2012 designs were complete but Design Team could not reach consensus a technical recommendation regarding implementation
- August 23, 2012 a letter received from Mr. Smith and Dickerson's attorney addressed to Robin Schrock, Executive Director; and a carbon copy to Brian Person, TMC Chair; and Trinity County Board of Supervisors; Robin Schrock responded with the status of the proposed project
- October 2012, formal presentation made to TMC regarding the project in Arcata; TMC requests Implementation Branch Chief to work with designers to perform additional analyses and work toward reaching a consensus technical recommendation in the Design Team.
- Additional predictive based hydraulic and erosion modeling was conducted by Cardno-ENTRIX and reviewed by the Design Team and Riparian Workgroup for comments.
- During the February Quarterly Design Team meeting, there was a presentation on additional analyses by Cardno-ENTRIX
- March 2013 Implementation Branch Chief informs the TMC of the consensus recommendation from the Design Team not to proceed because the project does not provide sufficient habitat gains to justify cost; TMC requests a memo and agrees to have it on the agenda during the April TMC meeting.