



Trinity River Restoration Program

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Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group

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Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

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Dana Hord
Big Bear Community Development Group

Byron Laydecker
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Joseph McCarthy
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Robert Nelson
Redwood Regional Audubon Society

Dwight Smithson
Six Rivers Outfitter and Guide Association

Jeffrey Sutton
Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority

Timothy Viet
Natural Resource Conservation Service

Randy Brown
Designated Federal Officer
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

March 29, 2010

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

Dear Mr. Person and TMC members,

On March 24, the Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group developed the following recommendations and messages to the Trinity Management Council.

TAMWG recommends TMC approval of the 2010 normal-year flow schedule developed by the Integrated Habitat Assessment team and the flow scheduling workgroup. If the April 1 forecast is for a "wet" year, TAMWG plans to meet by conference call soon after April 13 to discuss a recommendation for a wet-year release schedule.

TAMWG recommends that no portion of the river-release water volume specified in the Record of Decision be used for extra late-summer releases for flow or temperature problems that may occur in the lower Klamath River. The prevailing sense among TAMWG members is that necessary flows should come from the upper Klamath system, and that extra late-summer releases from Lewiston could have deleterious effects on fish and wildlife. Two members abstained in the approval of this recommendation

TAMWG recommends that the TMC request that a minimum pool of 1 million acre-feet be maintained in Trinity Reservoir through 2010 to avoid temperature problems in the Trinity river. This recommendation was approved by a vote of eleven to two; a "dissent discussion" by the two members in the minority should be attached to this letter.

TAMWG recommends TMC approval of the proposed 2011 TRRP budget dated 3/24/2010. TAMWG asks that the approved budget provide at least \$500,000 for watershed work, that this and future budgets include a note that the "full program cost" of watershed work is \$2 million per year, and that budget lines be identified from which any unneeded funds would be shifted to the watershed lines. As the 2010 budget is adjusted, and as subsequent budgets are developed, TAMWG suggests that the Implementation, Modeling & Analysis, and Administration categories be brought into a ratio of 50:30:20.

TAMWG recommends that the TMC thank the Regional Director for the Bureau of Reclamation for the substantial increase in TRRP funding proposed in the Reclamation appropriation request.

Generally, TAMWG members approved of the Interdisciplinary Habitat Assessment effort outlined in an abbreviated presentation on March 24. We suggest that the IHAP be further developed to improve the attention given to steelhead, coho, and bird habitat. There is concern among TAMWG members that TRRP is failing to attend appropriately to steelhead needs and trends, in downstream migrant trapping efforts, carcass counts, weir counts, and creel surveys, as well as in the IHAP. I suggest that the TMC direct an evaluation of this issue and schedule a TMC discussion.

TAMWG renews its request that TAMWG recommendations receive written responses that reflect the views of TMC members. In part, we request written responses as a means of ensuring that TMC discussion actually takes place, and that action is considered.

In March of 2008, and again in June of 2008, we suggested that the TMC explore options for carrying over ROD water from one year to the next. If it turns out that 2010 is a (barely) "wet" water year, it would be good to be able to consider carrying over allocated water rather than further drawing down an already depleted reservoir, but I think the recommendation has never had substantive discussion or proposed action at the TMC. We ask that TMC pursue this issue now.

In some cases, the TMC has taken initial action on a TAMWG recommendation, but has not given the matter the subsequent attention we think is required. We encourage the TMC to actively pursue responses to its June, 2008 letter to Interior regarding hatchery management authority and its June, 2009 letter to the Central Valley Operations office about Trinity Reservoir management.

In an attempt to keep this letter concise and diplomatic, I refrain from mentioning every recommendation that has not received appropriate TMC treatment in TAMWG's view. We suggest that the TAMWG "Action Tracker" be put to use by the TMC in regular reviews of the status of neglected or incompletely-addressed recommendations from your stakeholder advisors. We ask that the reviews be documented and reported back to TAMWG to prevent duplication of requests in the future.

I'll be happy to discuss TAMWG's views on these matters further at the March 31-April 1 TMC meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Arnold Whitridge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Arnold" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Whitridge".

Arnold Whitridge, TAMWG chair

Dissent Discussion of Motion by TAMWG to Recommend Maintaining Trinity Lake Reservoir level at One Million Acre Feet

While we share the TAMWG concerns over rising temperatures during certain times of the year in Trinity Lake Reservoir, we respectfully, and with no rancor, cannot join the majority vote to recommend that a specific level be maintained throughout the year.

Our concerns lie partly with the uncertainty of normal spring season rains in the northern Sacramento system due to a changing climate. Should late rains occur, keeping Trinity Lake at one million acre feet would present no problems in the northern Central Valley Project (CVP) system for irrigators. In recent years however, this occurrence has become far less predictable, causing concern in our minds that supplies to the CVP might be curtailed further than is already the case.

New operational provisions to provide water to the Delta come directly from the northern CVP. Should the weather type be as described in the paragraph above, curtailment of Trinity diversions and increases of Delta demands in the same water season could well cause cutbacks to Sacramento River water users. Until these demands are quantified, and sources are identified, uncertainty causes us to place our vote with the current operational criteria of the Trinity system and vote against the recommendation.

Potential cutbacks in electrical generation that might or might not be an issue, were Trinity Lake Reservoir to be maintained at a specific quantity, are yet another source of the uncertainty that precludes our vote in favor of the above cited motion.

We do agree however, with the premise that we need to continue to watch and analyze these issues and strive for the ability in the future to create and somehow maintain cooler water temperatures in the Trinity Lake Reservoir for the benefit of the ecosystem both at the lake and in the river downstream of the lake. Management of the Trinity system and its relationship to the Sacramento system needs to remain truly adaptive to

all needs wherever possible, and not set in stone by the selection of an arbitrary number
regardless of conditions.

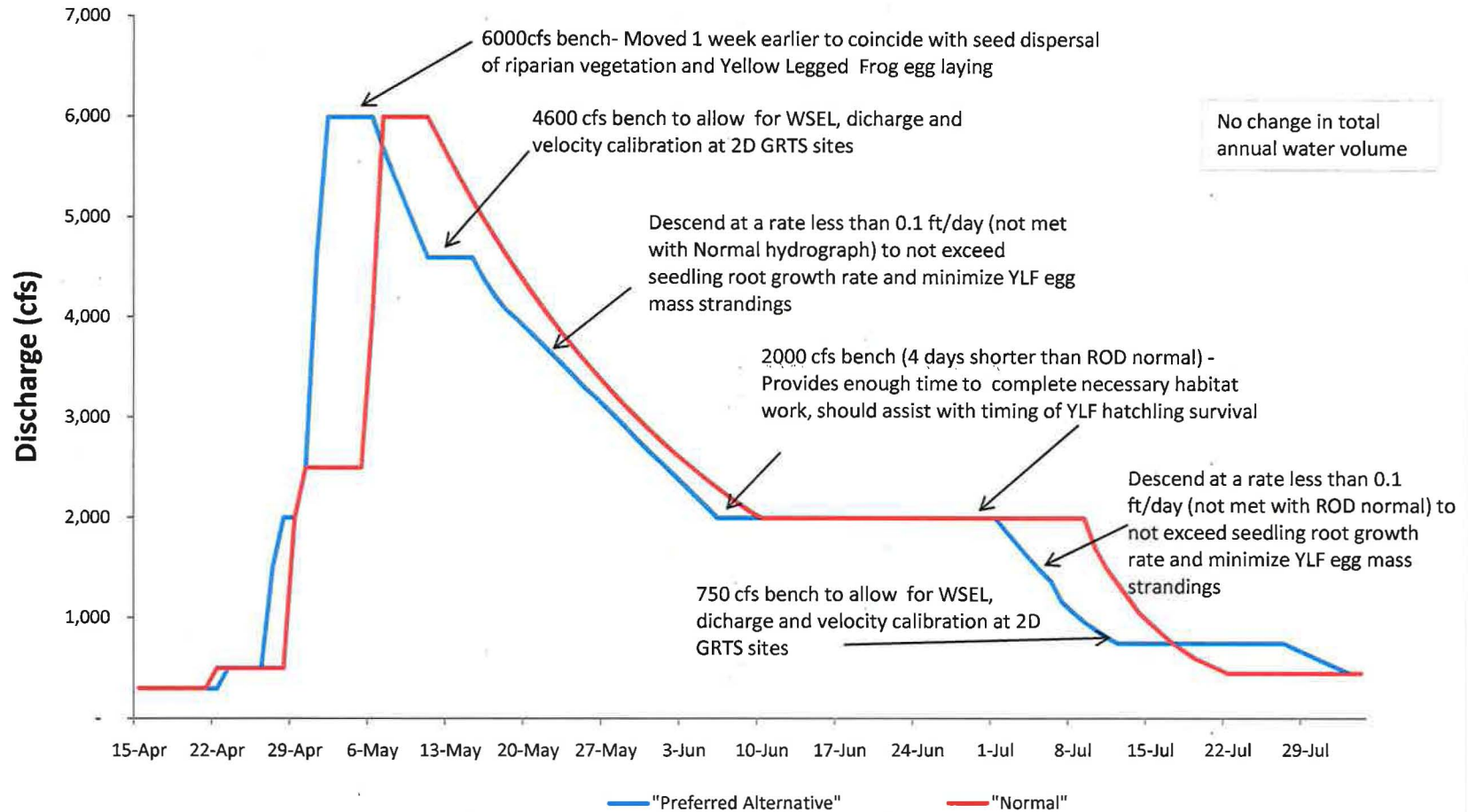
Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Sutton

Sandy Denn

March 26, 2010

2010 Flow Release Scheduler



**Trinity River Restoration Program
FY2011
BUDGET SUMMARY**

AEAM Team – Weaverville Office – Program Administration

Personnel

Includes labor and benefits for 3.5 FTE's; Executive Director, Secretary, Budget/Procurement Analyst, and Implementation Branch Chief (.5).

Office Operations

Includes travel, rent, expansion costs, relocation, security, utilities, training, supplies, and equipment.

Other USBR Offices

Includes direct labor costs for work performed by other Reclamation offices such as acquisitions, Shasta maintenance crew, Shasta IT staff, etc.

RIC/OIC

The Regional Indirect Cost (RIC) rate is calculated at 30% on direct labor and primarily funds the Division Offices of Financial Management, Acquisition, Information Technology, Human Resources, Administrative Services, Safety, and Public Affairs. The Office Indirect Cost (OIC) rate is determined by the Area Office usually calculated at 30% on direct labor used to cover costs charged to the working capital fund.

FWS Field Office – Program Administration

Awaiting information from FWS

AEAM Team – Weaverville Office - Rehabilitation Implementation

Personnel

Includes labor and benefits for 6.5 FTE's; Implementation Branch Chief (.5) and five staff positions.

RIC/OIC

Same as above.

AEAM Team – Weaverville Office - Science

Personnel

Includes labor and benefits for 4.4 FTE's; five staff positions with one position assigned (.6) to outside programs.

RIC/OIC

Same as above.

AEAM Team – FWS Arcata - Science

Awaiting information from FWS

Trinity Program Support Program Wide Activities

Includes time, travel, and per diem costs for **8 principle TMC members and Alternates/and/or Technical Representatives (2 maximum – does not include project labor)** to attend four 2-day quarterly meetings per year, plus one special 2-day called session for purposes of directing TRRP activities, plus time, travel, and per diem associated with twenty days of coordination. Also includes time, travel, and per diem costs to attend 16 technical meetings, plus non-project specific costs such as office supplies, equipment, vehicles, and indirect costs.

Technical Assistance to Tribes

To provide expertise and technical assistance to Program staff and other tribal, state and Federal resource agencies in applying adaptive management principles (as identified in the EIS/EIR and ROD). In addition, this task is used to support critical and non-critical operational costs not otherwise covered by indirect costs associated with specific projects or central administration, but necessary for the tribes to effectively and meaningfully participate and contribute to the Program.

Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group

Travel and per diem costs for approximately 15-20 TAMWG members to attend four 1-2 day meetings per year for purposes of reviewing and advising on Program activities and four 1-2 day subcommittee meetings per member per year; also includes administrative support costs of FWS designated federal official and staff (1 part-time employee).