Technical Workgroup Summary
September 2013

Updates have been prepared by the Trinity River Restoration Program technical workgroup coordinators for the Trinity Management Council and the Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group.

Workgroup: Physical **Coordinator:** Andreas Krause

- The workgroup continued working on plans and procedures for developing gravel augmentation recommendations for 2014 and for the long term.
- A status report will be provided at the December TAMWG and TMC meetings.

Workgroup: Temperature and Flow **Coordinators:** Rod Wittler, Eric Peterson

- Completed: Wittler RJ, Hayden T, Peterson E (2013) Restoration flow releases and diversions on the Trinity River water year 2012. Technical Report TR-TRRP-2013-2. Trinity River Restoration Program, Weaverville, CA. Online at http://odp.trrp.net/Data/Documents/Details.aspx?document=2121.
- The hydrograph design report for water year 2013 is undergoing production editing.
- The workgroup is following a new timeline for hydrograph development. The intent of the new timeline is to build a portfolio of hydrographs with their objectives and analyses, ahead of water-year specific hydrograph recommendations. Then in the January to March timeframe, the workgroup will make a water year specific recommendation drawn from the suite of alternative hydrographs within the portfolio. The current timeline is as follows:
    - August 8th: draft new alternative hydrographs were due.
    - August 30th: workgroup meeting to (1) review draft portfolio of prior hydrographs, (2) review new draft alternatives, and (3) identify likely analyses to be performed.
    - September to October: portfolio and new alternatives will be refined.
    - November: workgroup conference call for review of portfolio and alternatives, initiation of analysis phase for priority hydrographs.
    - November to December: complete analyses.
    - January: workgroup meeting to identify specific drivers for water year 2014 and scope suite of likely hydrographs.
    - End of February: workgroup meeting to determine which hydrographs to forward to TMC with succinct decision tree to specify which hydrograph based on water year class identified in April.
- A summary of flow releases implemented from water year 2004 to present, plus a few additional alternatives that were otherwise evaluated, has been assembled in a draft document.
- New draft alternatives received in August included a wet-year geomorphic peak-flow reaching 10,000 cfs and multi-peak hydrographs for dry, normal, and wet year classes.

Workgroup: Watershed **Coordinator:** Robin Schrock

- Proposed 2014 watershed projects recommended by the workgroup were presented to the TAMWG and TMC at their June 2013 meetings.
- The TAMWG recommended the TMC approve the proposed 2014 projects.
- The TMC asked the Executive Director for workgroup assurance the projects address TRRP objectives.
- The Executive Director provided the TMC with excerpts from TRRP foundational documents related to watershed projects.
- Workgroup members were asked to discuss the proposed projects with their TMC members.
- No responses were received from the workgroup members; therefore the workgroup coordinator recommends the TMC approve the proposed projects as recommended by the workgroup in June 2014.
- The Executive Director requests the TMC approve the 2014 projects by a TMC motion at the September TMC meeting.
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2014 proposed watershed projects summaries

Sidney Gulch Fish Passage Improvement Project
Northwest CA Resource Conservation and Development Council, 5C Program
Replace the existing Sidney Gulch corrugated metal culvert on Weaver Bally Loop Rd with an 12' wide x 9' deep x 60' long natural bottom precast concrete box culvert; Restore access to 1.2 miles of seasonal stream habitat for adult and juvenile steelhead and potentially Coho salmon; Implement watershed indicator targets of the Trinity River Mainstem TMDL; Implement watershed recommendations of the CA Coho Recovery Strategy.

Browns Creek Road Sediment Implementation Projects
Northwest CA Resource Conservation & Development Council
Utilize previously assembled road sediment inventory data to develop, rank, and implement projects that will reduce road-related sediment input to Browns Creek. Implement road upgrade (stormproofing) projects on up to 50 sites in the Browns Creek Watershed that have been previously identified as major sources of sediment. Projects would include installing rolling dips, culverts, hardening road surfaces, and more.

West Weaver Creek – Channel and Floodplain Rehabilitation Implementation
Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD)
This project will implement a comprehensive channel and floodplain rehabilitation project in a severely degraded reach of West Weaver Creek, downstream of Highway 299.

East Weaver Creek Dam Removal Project
Northwest CA Resource Conservation & Development Council, 5 Counties Program
Develop a feasibility study to remove a 20' tall dam on East Weaver Creek, install a new intake and pipeline to open 2.5 miles of Coho habitat in the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area while maintaining reliable drinking water to Weaverville, Trinity County.

Weaver Creek Road Sediment Assessment (alternate)
Northwest CA Resource Conservation & Development Council
Inventory of up to 107 miles of roads to identify major sources of road related sediment to Weaver Creek. Outreach to private landowners to perform inventories and conduct educational workshop(s). Utilize sediment inventory data to develop implementation projects.

2014 Watershed Project Proposals		TRRP	Match	
Sidney Gulch Fish Passage	5C's	$146,937	$49,326	
Browns Crk Rd Improvements Ph 2	5C's	$284,580	$47,373	
West Weaver Creek	RCD	$185,000	$537,500	*if matching funds not approved **
East Weaver Creek Dam Removal	5C's	$40,565	$44,378	
Total		**$657,082**	**$678,577**	
Weaver Crk Rd Inventory	5C's	$63,044	$12,144	**alternate for *
Total		**$535,126**	**$153,221**	

Workgroup: Interdisciplinary **Coordinators:** Ernie Clarke / DJ Bandrowski

- The Interdisciplinary Team holds monthly teleconferences.
- The group is primarily serving a coordination role.

Workgroup: Wildlife and Riparian **Coordinator**: James Lee

- The workgroup continued coordination between the vegetation monitoring that occurs during avian monitoring and the annual riparian vegetation monitoring.
- The group planned two upcoming riparian meetings, one with Scientific Advisory Board member Mike Merigliano during the week of August 26, and the other with riparian plant ecologist Chris Hoag during the week of September 16.
- The group continued work on the Vegetation Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, which needs a description of reporting requirements and then distribution to responsible agencies for final review and signature.
- Workgroup members continued field work in support of herpetological, avian, and riparian monitoring.

Workgroup: Design **Coordinator: DJ Bandrowski**

- Lorenz Gulch and Douglas City (portion below 299 bridge) In-Channel project features have all been implemented. Civil construction is 90% complete at both sites with only upland grading and revegetation components remaining.

- Sawmill Gravel Augmentation Bar in Lewiston is being implemented by the Yurok Tribe and will be completed by September 15th. Approximately 1500 cubic yards of gravel and 30 pieces of large wood will be constructed on the upstream river left existing gravel bar that was originally constructed in 2009.

- 2014/2015 project designs are currently at the 30% design stage. Bucktail and Lower Junction City are in progress toward the 50% design stage, with anticipated final designs by November 2013 timeframe. Updated metrics for the Juvenile Rearing and Riparian Function have been revised to support the 50% design development. The Dutch Creek project is currently on-hold at 30% design stage awaiting further input from the USFS NEPA process. The 2014/15 designs are being developed from the following groups: Junction City (Federal Design Group); Dutch Creek (State Design Group); Bucktail Re-design (Hoopa Valley Design Group).

- Value Engineering Study – External Peer Review took place in July for the projects listed above. The final report has been completed and distributed to the Design Team.

- Joint Stakeholder/Design Team meeting was held on June 4th with presentation of three 10% conceptual design alternatives for each 2014 project. Means objective metrics were presented with comparisons between three alternatives.

- Bucktail Bridge Design is 95% complete; final plans are expected by end of September 2013 and construction coordinated between CalTrans and Trinity County in 2015. Environmental compliance process for Bucktail Bridge is underway with a target completion by December 2013.

- The workgroup met on August 15 to discuss the implementation of projects at Douglas City and Lorenz Gulch and to provide input to the design changes that occurred on-site in the field.

- The Design Team discussed planning stages for the Lewiston hatchery that will be starting the design process October 2013.

- The Design Team also reviewed comments from the Value Engineering study on specific proposed site features, and also discussed performance metrics that may be used in developing analysis tools for the 2014-1015 projects.

Workgroup: Fish **Coordinator:** Tim Hayden

- The Fish Workgroup continued to work on tasks from the May 2013 objectives workshop, including; refinement and consolidation of means objectives and identifying linkages to management actions.
- The group will meet again in September to finalize the objectives workshop action items for use in development of a Decision Support System.