

## Technical Workgroup Summary

March 2014

*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 (\*denotes item will be presented).*

### **Workgroup:** Flow\*

**Coordinators:** Rod Wittler/Ernie Clarke

- The workgroup met on February 27 and March 11 to develop recommendations for water year 2014.
  - If it is a Critically Dry year the group recommends the ROD hydrograph.
  - If it is a Dry year the group recommends the Joint Physical Riparian Initiation Alternative 2 (JPRI Alt. 2). This option was slightly preferred over the Multi-peak alternative.
  - In the unlikely event of a Normal year the workgroup will reconvene to develop a recommendation.
- The workgroup will have its next meeting in late May.

### **Workgroup:** Fish

**Coordinator:** Seth Naman

- The TRRP held a Fish Production Model workshop in Arcata on March 5, 2014.
- The purpose of the workshop was to:
  - Develop an understanding of the data that are needed to support the fish production model.
  - Identify what data are available and what data are critical but unavailable.
  - Develop a task list and schedule for accomplishing the tasks to support model development.
- The first major task to be implemented is the collaborative modeling effort being conducted by Reclamation TSC / TRRP staff and the Hoopa Valley, Yurok and FWS biologists conducting the habitat assessment.
  - This effort will provide that habitat component for the model.
- Other tasks will include compiling data on spawning abundance and distribution.
- The temperature model component of the fish production model is being developed in a parallel effort, funded by BOR-Klamath Falls and USFWS. This component of the model will complete the Klamath Basin water temperature model.
- The group will meet in approximately three months to provide updates and continue to coordinate and refine model development efforts.

### **Workgroup:** Gravel Augmentation\*

**Coordinator:** Robert Franklin

- The workgroup met on February 28 to develop recommendations for water year 2014:
  - If it is a Critically Dry year the group recommends no gravel augmentation.
  - If it is a Dry year and hydrograph JPRI Alt. 2 is implemented, the group recommends that 1400 cubic yards of gravel be injected during high flows at the Diversion Pool.
- The group continues to support development of the next 5-year gravel augmentation permit.
- The workgroup will have its next meeting in early May.

### **Workgroup:** Wildlife and Riparian

**Coordinator:** James Lee

- There are no recommendations from the Wildlife and Riparian Workgroup at this time.
- A workgroup meeting was held on February 12, 2014, and the notes will be available for viewing on the ODP.
- Workgroup members heard from Watershed Stewards Project (WSP) members about their interest in working in the TRRP area.
- The workgroup offered suggestions for WSP members, which are currently being planned for implementation in Summer 2014.

- Dr. Rohan Benjankar, a riparian vegetation modeler from the University of Idaho Ecohydraulics Institute, presented a demonstration of a spatially- and temporally-explicit riparian vegetation model. The intent of the presentation was to prepare the workgroup for recommending a riparian vegetation model component to the Decision Support System (DSS).
- Workgroup members discussed partner roles, responsibilities, and activities related to invasive species in the TRRP area. The intent of the discussion was to ensure that workgroup members understood what the TRRP and partners were doing about invasive species.

**Workgroup:** Interdisciplinary Team

**Coordinators:** Ernie Clarke/DJ Bandrowski

- The team holds monthly teleconferences and is currently serving a coordination role to ensure multiple disciplinary approaches to Phase II planning.

**Workgroup:** Design\*

**Coordinator:** DJ Bandrowski

- The 2014 Implementation is planned for Douglas City (upstream phase) and Lower Junction City Channel Rehabilitation Project Sites.
- The Phase II Planning/Analysis Quantitative Prioritization of Future Designs is moving forward - Coordination/Integration with Habitat Team and IDT.
- The Lower Junction City Design was completed in Feb. 2014 by the Federal Design Group and is out for bid through the Yurok Tribe Watershed Department.
- The Bucktail Channel Rehabilitation Design at 90% by HVT Design Group project is on hold pending re-design based on internal/external EA comments.
- The Lower Junction City and Bucktail Projects are pending NEPA environmental clearance before moving forward (in-review by the Waterboard).
- The Dutch Creek Channel Rehab Project at 30% Design Phase by State Design Group implementation is anticipated for 2015.
- The Hatchery Channel Rehab Project at Conceptual Design Phase by Yurok Tribe Design Group implementation is anticipated for 2015.
- The Limekiln Gulch Channel Rehab Project has been removed from "on-hold" 90% Status; the Federal Design Group is working on updating analyses; implementation is anticipated for 2015.
- Bucktail Bridge NEPA Environmental Compliance is moving forward; Trinity County DOT is looking for funding opportunities and performing right-of-way coordination.
- Lorenz Gulch and Douglas City (downstream) Channel Rehab Projects are complete including revegetation (summer reveg water maintenance is planned).

**Workgroup:** Watershed

**Coordinator:** Sean Ledwin

- The last workgroup meeting was March 4, 2014.
- The workgroup convened a meeting with funding applicants and program partners to solicit information on the seven proposed projects for the FY2015 funding cycle; applicants were asked to provide written responses to partners' questions pertaining to technical details of projects.
- The workgroup convened a WebEx conference call to review project proponent answers to questions, proposal details, discuss workgroup priorities, and discuss developed criteria for reviewing applications.
- Partner organizations scored each proposal and reached a consensus recommendation that TMC approve funding for the three proposals that received the highest scores (in rank order):
  1. Grass Valley Creek Sediment and Connectivity Project (\$49,450),
  2. Valdor Roads Sediment Reduction Project (\$25,300),
  3. Lower Sidney Gulch Urban Stream Restoration Project (\$425,250).