

Technical Workgroup Summary
December 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.

Workgroup: Flow

Coordinator: Robert Stewart

- New hydrographs are being analyzed for use during multi-year droughts to scour narrow leaf willows and prevent riparian encroachment into the river.

Workgroup: Fish

Coordinator: Steve Cannata

- The Fish workgroup last met on November 19, 2014.
- Steve Cannata was confirmed as the new Fish Work Group Coordinator.
- The Fish Work Group has synthesized Integrated Assessment Plan objectives to reduce redundancy and developed quantitative metrics to assess progress towards meeting those objectives.
- A draft report on the origin of Trinity River Restoration Program salmonid goals is in development. The report reviews documents that likely contributed to development of Trinity River Restoration Program salmonid production goals.
- The group was asked to provide questions and concerns that arose from the Channel Rehabilitation Workshop recently held in Weaverville. The top 3 three questions will be submitted to the Interdisciplinary Development Team during the January meeting.
- The next Fish Work Group meeting is planned for the week of December 8th.

Workgroup: Gravel Augmentation

Coordinator: Andreas Krause

- The Gravel Augmentation workgroup has decided to name the long term plan the "Sediment Management Plan", as "sediment" is technically more appropriate than "gravel", and "augmentation" refers only to the placement of sediment into the river, while "management" implies monitoring with measurable hypothesis to actively adjust recommendations based on observed outcomes and desired results.
- The workgroup has decided the first draft of the sediment management plan will be a compendium of site-specific gravel plans. The sites in this analysis are all past gravel augmentation locations, with one potentially new site located at Steelbridge. Each site-specific plan includes biological justification, objectives, recommended gravel augmentation amount, and measurable hypothesis tests which guide future recommendations.
- The workgroup has started analyzing the effects of past gravel augmentation and is conducting analysis to determine the appropriateness of a new gravel augmentation location at Steelbridge.

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

- The Wildlife and Riparian workgroup did not have a formal meeting last quarter, but workgroup members worked independently on a variety of projects.
- The Riparian Monitoring and Mitigation Plan was submitted for internal review. Anticipate delivery for agency review by the end of December 2014.
- Lower Junction City revegetation on the river right bank was completed in November, and river left at Hocker Flat revegetation will be completed by March 15, 2015.
- Limekiln Gulch revegetation planform design and plant quantity/cost estimate was completed
- Workgroup members met with Restoration Resources while planning a revegetation project in the Lower Junction City/Hocker Flat area. Project is anticipated for February 2015.
- Workgroup members finalized the 2013 Riparian and Geomorphic Monitoring Report.
- Workgroup members met with Program staff to determine ways to maintain a consistent, high-quality plant material supply for Trinity River Restoration Program projects.
- Workgroup members completed an initial review of a Song Sparrow Habitat Use report provided to the Trinity River Restoration Program by the Klamath Bird Observatory.
- Future activities include finalizing revegetation designs for Lower Junction City/Hocker Flat, Limekiln Gulch, and Dutch Creek.

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

- The Interdisciplinary Team meets on the last Thursday of each month. The last workgroup meeting was November 20, 2014. Topics included the Channel Rehabilitation Evolution Workshop follow-up and development of a Channel Rehabilitation Effectiveness Monitoring Update. Proceedings from the workshop and presentation summaries including Lessons Learned will be presented to the Trinity River Adaptive Management Working Group on December 15th.
- The Interdisciplinary Team will meet in mid-January for a one-day Post Channel Rehab Workshop, in order to facilitate a technical discussion among group members on the top lessons learned vis-à-vis channel rehabilitation management actions. This effort could help identify key issues of:
 - o Uncertainties, Hypotheses, Big Questions, Unresolved Issues, Conflicts, What We Know, What We Don't Know, and What We Think We Know, and
 - o Help develop a strategy and recommendations on how to resolve these key issues.
- The next meeting will be held on December 12, 2014.

Workgroup: Design**Coordinator:** DJ Bandrowski

- The Lower Junction City civil implementation is 100% complete. Revegetation on river right is completed and river left at Hocker Flat will be completed by March 15, 2015. Construction was coordinated by the Yurok Tribes Watershed Department.
- The Phase II Planning to support the 2015 design process has been completed. Project sites identified by the Logic Model, recommended by the Design Team, and approved by the Trinity Management Council include: Upper Evans Bar (State), Chapman Ranch (Hoopa Valley Tribe), Deep Gulch (Federal), and Sheridan Creek (Yurok Tribe).
- A new design process has been incorporated for the 2015 design cycle to support 2016 project implementation. The new design process is intended to help create more design group synergy,

increase efficiency, reduce redundancies, and streamline the overall process utilizing the most appropriate skills and abilities of various design team partners.

- The 2014 design cycle is coming to a close with the completion of three major designs including: Limekiln Gulch (Federal), Dutch Creek (State), and Bucktail (Hoopa Valley Tribe).
- 2015 Channel Rehabilitation Construction Projects
 - o Upper Douglas City (*Approved* - Contract and Environmental Compliance Complete)
 - o Limekiln Gulch (*Pending* - Environmental Compliance)
 - o Upper Portion of Bucktail (*Pending* - Funding and Environmental Compliance)
 - o Lower Portion of Bucktail (*On-Hold* – Due to Funding and Environmental Compliance)
 - o Dutch Creek (*On-Hold* - Due to Funding and Environmental Compliance)
 - o Bucktail Bridge (*On-Hold* - Due to Funding and Environmental Compliance)
- Trinity County Department of Transportation is working on a Federal Lands Access Program Grant application to help fund Bucktail Bridge. Application is due in January 2015.
- The Design Team has begun development of the Large Wood Management Plan approved by the Trinity Management Council at their June meeting.
- Design Team members participated in the recent Channel Rehabilitation Evolution Workshop on October 30th/31st. This was a great opportunity to showcase some of the adaptive management taking place in the design team and at channel rehab projects.
- The Design Team has had several meetings this quarter including: October 1st/2nd; November 19th, and December 8th (Technical Roundtable Discussion).

Workgroup: Watershed

Coordinator: Sean Ledwin

- The Watershed workgroup met on September 16th to discuss Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 proposal processes, contracting issues, database development, and how to use any remaining FY 2015 funding.
- The Watershed workgroup and science coordinators have drafted a request for proposal (RFP) for FY 2016 projects that is undergoing an initial review by Department of Interior Solicitors that will be shared with the workgroup and the Trinity Management Council in January.
- The FY 2014 projects were funded in FY2014 but delayed until FY2015 due to new acquisition procedures under DOI's new Financial and Business Management System that delayed approvals and obligations of funding. The FY 2015 projects were approved by the Trinity Management Council.