



Trinity River Restoration Program

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NC-150

MEMORANDUM

TO: TMC and TAMWG Members

FROM: Robin Schrock, Executive Director
Trinity River Restoration Program

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report

DATE: March 25, 2015

The major activities between December 2014 and March 2015 focused on program efforts to secure permits for continued fine and coarse sediment approaches, and the water quality certification for rehabilitation projects. Stakeholder concerns were addressed directly to the North Coast Water Quality Control Board with the result that Initial Studies for Fine and Coarse Sediment, and for Water Quality Certification for Rehabilitation Projects have also been developed and are being released for public review.

Budget Update

The TRRP FY2015 budget is committed in its entirety and meets all requests as of March 2015. Several agreements are still in different stages of finalization based on the performance periods, however, we want to thank everyone who provided the extensive information required to complete their agreements or contract packages. Restoration funding was restored to \$2M and the program plans to fund both Limekiln Gulch and Bucktail Phase 1 in FY2015.

The TRRP 2016 budget is described in the Statement of Estevan López, Commissioner Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior before the Appropriations Committee Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, of the U.S. Senate on February 11, 2015 regarding the President's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget: *within California's Central Valley Project, \$11.9 million is for the Trinity River Restoration Program, with an additional \$1.5 million from the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund.*

Organizational Updates

- A question from the solicitors about rotation of Scientific Advisory Board members during a December 3, 2014 meeting, led to a call with Claire Stalnaker about the history of the SAB. He mentioned the original plan was to have SAB members rotate out every year, however, for continuity longer terms were approved. A follow-up call asked the SAB members to provide recommendations for a new SAB member that will fulfill expertise needs in the area of fisheries. The SAB recommendations will be added to the TMC recommendations. Nominations are requested from the TMC by April 24, 2015 with information about the specific expertise the nominee will provide in a specific program area and their CVs. This will help the SAB in their review of nominee's qualifications.

Science Updates

- The Flow Work Group developed Restoration Release hydrographs for Dry and Normal water years, with accompanying temperature models provided by NCAO.
- The Fish Work Group is prioritizing activities for the 2016 annual work plan, considering ongoing priorities including the Fish Production Model, and discussed needs for Channel Rehabilitation Assessment and Cohort Reconstruction.
- The Gravel Work Group determined augmentation levels for the two proposed restoration hydrographs and prioritized activities for the 2016 annual work plan.
- See handout of work group reports for more detail on specific efforts.

Implementation Update

- TRRP implementation of all proposed projects is contingent on permitting. The NCWQCB is releasing the Initial Studies for all three permits for public review, and is holding a public meeting the evening of March 26 in Weaverville.
- TRRP staff held a public meeting to receive public input on the Draft Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Site: Limekiln Gulch Project environmental documents on March 11, 2015 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Douglas City School, Douglas City, CA. The draft environmental document for this project was prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act and is available on the Reclamation website on the Trinity River Restoration Project website at www.trrp.net.
- Proposed projects for implementation in 2015 included Upper Douglas City, Limekiln Gulch and Bucktail Phase 1 and all phases of design, planning, permitting, and contracting are moving forward.
- Hocker Flat/Lower Junction City revegetation is planned for this spring.

Public Outreach

- The public meeting for the Limekiln Gulch rehabilitation project was held March 11, 2015 at the Douglas City School. No members of the public chose to participate but attendees included technical staff from the TRRP Weaverville office, BLM Redding Field Office, Yurok Tribal Fisheries and Watershed Departments, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, the CEQA lead for Limekiln Gulch and

Publications and Reports

New TRRP and associated Trinity River items included data packages were posted on <http://odp.trrp.net/>

[Borok, S. 2014.](#) Annual report, Trinity Basin salmon and steelhead monitoring project, 2013-2014 season: 2013 angler creel surveys in the lower Klamath River. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Northern Region, Redding, CA.

[Borok, S., S. Cannata, A. Hill, J. Hileman, and M. C. Kier. 2014.](#) Annual report, Trinity River basin salmon and steelhead monitoring project, 2011-2012 season. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Northern Region, Redding, CA.

[Borok, S., S. Cannata, J. Hileman, A. Hill and M. C. Kier. 2014.](#) Annual report, Trinity River basin salmon and steelhead monitoring project, 2012-2013 season. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Northern Region, Redding, CA.

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Yurok Tribal Fisheries Department. 2015.](#) Large Wood Debris (LWD) Survey Data for Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Sites, 2006-2015, collected by USFWS, Yurok Tribe. Data Package for the Trinity River Restoration Program. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arcata CA.

[U.S. Geological Survey \(USGS\). 2014.](#) Western Pond Turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) and Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog (*Rana boylei*) Monitoring and Assessment on the Trinity River, California (2013). Data Package submitted to the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP). USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center, Corvallis, OR.

[Gaeuman, D. 2014.](#) High-flow gravel injection for constructing designed in-channel features. River Research and Applications 30(6): 685-706.

[Kier, M. C., J. Hileman, and S. Cannata. 2014.](#) Annual Report, Trinity River basin salmon and steelhead monitoring project: chinook and coho salmon and fall-run steelhead run-size estimates using mark-recapture methods, 2013-2014 season. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Northern Region, Redding, CA.

[Magneson, M. D. and C. D. Chamberlain. 2015.](#) The influence of Lewiston dam releases on water temperatures of the Trinity River and lower Klamath River, CA, April to October 2014. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office, Arcata Fisheries Data Series Report Number DS 2015-41, Arcata, California.

[Martin, A. 2015.](#) Age 0 chinook and coho rearing habitat observations, Lorenz Gulch rehabilitation site, 2009-2013, upper Trinity River, CA. Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program, Weitchpec, CA.

[Martin, A. 2014.](#) Age 0 Chinook and Coho Rearing Habitat Observations, Hocker Flat Rehabilitation Site, 2008-2013, Upper Trinity River, CA. Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program, Weitchpec, CA.

[Martin, A. 2014.](#) Age 0 chinook and coho rearing habitat observations, Upper Dark Gulch rehabilitation site, 2009-2013, upper Trinity River, CA. Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program, Weitchpec, CA.

[Martin, A. 2014.](#) Age 0 chinook and coho rearing habitat observations, Upper Junction City rehabilitation site, 2011-2013, upper Trinity River, CA. Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program, Weitchpec, CA.

[Martin, A. 2014.](#) Age 0 chinook and coho rearing habitat observations, Lower Steiner Flat rehabilitation site, 2011-2013, upper Trinity River, CA. Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program, Weitchpec, CA.

[North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Bureau of Land Management. 2015.](#) Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Site: Limekiln Gulch (River Mile 99.7-100.6). environmental assessment/ initial study. Trinity River Restoration Program. SCH #Not yet assigned

[North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Bureau of Land Management. 2015.](#) Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Sites: Limekiln Gulch (River Mile 99.7-100.6). Project Initial Study Environmental Checklist and Evaluation of Environmental Impact.

[Rockwell, S. M. and J. L. Stephens. 2014.](#) Song sparrow habitat selection on the Trinity River. Report No. KBO-2014-0010. Klamath Bird Observatory, Ashland, OR.

[Rockwell, S. M., E. E. Armstrong, and J. L. Stephens. 2014.](#) Bird Monitoring on the Trinity River: 2014 Summary Report. Report to the Trinity River Restoration Program. Klamath Bird Observatory, Ashland, OR.

Save the Date

- **March 26, 2015:** The Regional Water Board is conducting a public workshop for interested persons to learn about continued regulation of the channel rehabilitation activities of the Trinity River Restoration Program for Remaining Phase I and Phase 2 Sites. The Water Board is proposing to reissue the Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act [33 USC 1341] and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. The purpose of the workshop is to hear and receive written comments specifically on the water quality aspects of activities regulated by the Draft Water Quality Certification.
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/public_notices/water_quality_certification/.
- Day at the Wetland. Weaverville, CA. April 30. TRRP technical staff volunteers to serve as field instructors. Check with your supervisor and provide your name if you are interested and available to Donna Rupp at TCRCD. drupp@tcrd.net
- Children's Festival. Weaverville, CA. May 9. Contact drupp@tcrd.net for information.