



Trinity River Restoration Program

P.O. Box 1300, 1313 South Main Street, Weaverville, California 96093
Telephone: 530-623-1800, Fax: 530-623-5944

June 22, 2015

Seth Naman, Chair
Trinity Management Council
c/o Trinity River Restoration Program
P.O. Box 1300
Weaverville, CA 96093

Dear Mr. Naman:

The Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG) met on June 16-17, 2015. This letter serves to provide you with a summary of that meeting and our resulting policy and management recommendations, as required by TAMWG's bylaws.

This was our first meeting following the new appointments of the TAMWG. As such, we held elections where Elizabeth Hadley and Tom Stokely were reelected as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectfully. Joe Polos, the TAMWG Designated Federal Officer, reviewed the purpose and role of the TAMWG for the newly appointed members and alternates.

The internal TRRP Communication Guidelines were reviewed and **the TAMWG recommends that the TMC update the definition of TAMWG to reflect the language from the TAMWG Charter.** This change has been made in the attached document for your consideration.

We appreciate Seth Naman providing an update on Trinity Management Council (TMC) activities. The TAMWG is concerned with the TMC's proposed changes to their bylaws and **the TAMWG recommends that the TMC not hold closed executive sessions unless they adopt the Brown Act criteria as part of their bylaws.**

The TAMWG appreciated the update regarding the status of the current water year data, however the data was a few months old and the Bureau of Reclamation was unavailable to provide an update on current water diversions and the ongoing drought. Subsequently, **the TAMWG requests that the TMC obtain and share the latest water year forecast.** In addition, **the TAMWG recommends that the TMC recommend that the Bureau of Reclamation limit Trinity River diversions to the Sacramento River this year to minimum amounts necessary in order to meet Trinity River Basin temperature objectives.** A Minority Opinion is attached to reflect the position of those members that voted against this motion.

We look forward to our joint meeting on August 13th; please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth Hadley, Chair
Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group

Purpose

The goal of these guidelines is to develop an internal mapping of key communication processes for a clearer expectation and understanding of roles and responsibilities. These guidelines are intended to help facilitate better communication between the Trinity Management Council (TMC) members, Trinity River Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG) members, and Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) staff and workgroups.

Primary Components

Trinity Management Council

The purpose of the TMC is to function as a board of directors by being the decision-making body for the TRRP in order to manage the Trinity River basin of the Central Valley Project. The authority, duties, and functions of the TMC derive from the Secretary of the Interior though member agencies retain their existing authorities and rights to comply with internal policies and procedures. The eight partner members are the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, the Yurok Tribe, the California Natural Resources Agency (Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Water Resources), Trinity County, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Forest Service.

Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group

The purpose of the TAMWG is to ~~act in an advisory capacity to the TMC by providing a forum for a diverse group of stakeholders to make policy and management recommendations with the goal of restoring and maintaining the natural production of salmon and steelhead on the Trinity River mainstem downstream of Lewiston Dam~~ recommend policy and provide management input, in an advisory capacity, about restoration efforts to the TRRP through the TMC. TAMWG consists of 12-20 members and exists at the appointment and discretion of the Secretary of the Interior for three-year terms. A Designated Federal Officer (DFO) is appointed to administer all TAMWG and subcommittee meetings.

Trinity Restoration River Program Staff

Key staff of the TRRP includes the Executive Director (ED), the Science Coordinator, and the Implementation Branch Chief. The Executive Director is responsible for creating workgroups to meet the technical needs of the TRRP and functions as a conduit for scientific and technical information between workgroups and the TMC. The Science Coordinator/Implementation Branch Chief serve as the liaisons between workgroups and provides oversight of all workgroup activities, including development of meeting agendas and identification of desired outcomes of the meeting. The Science Coordinator/Implementation Branch Chief ensures the proceedings of each workgroup meeting are appropriately documented and posted on the TRRP website to ensure effective communication among workgroups.

Workgroups

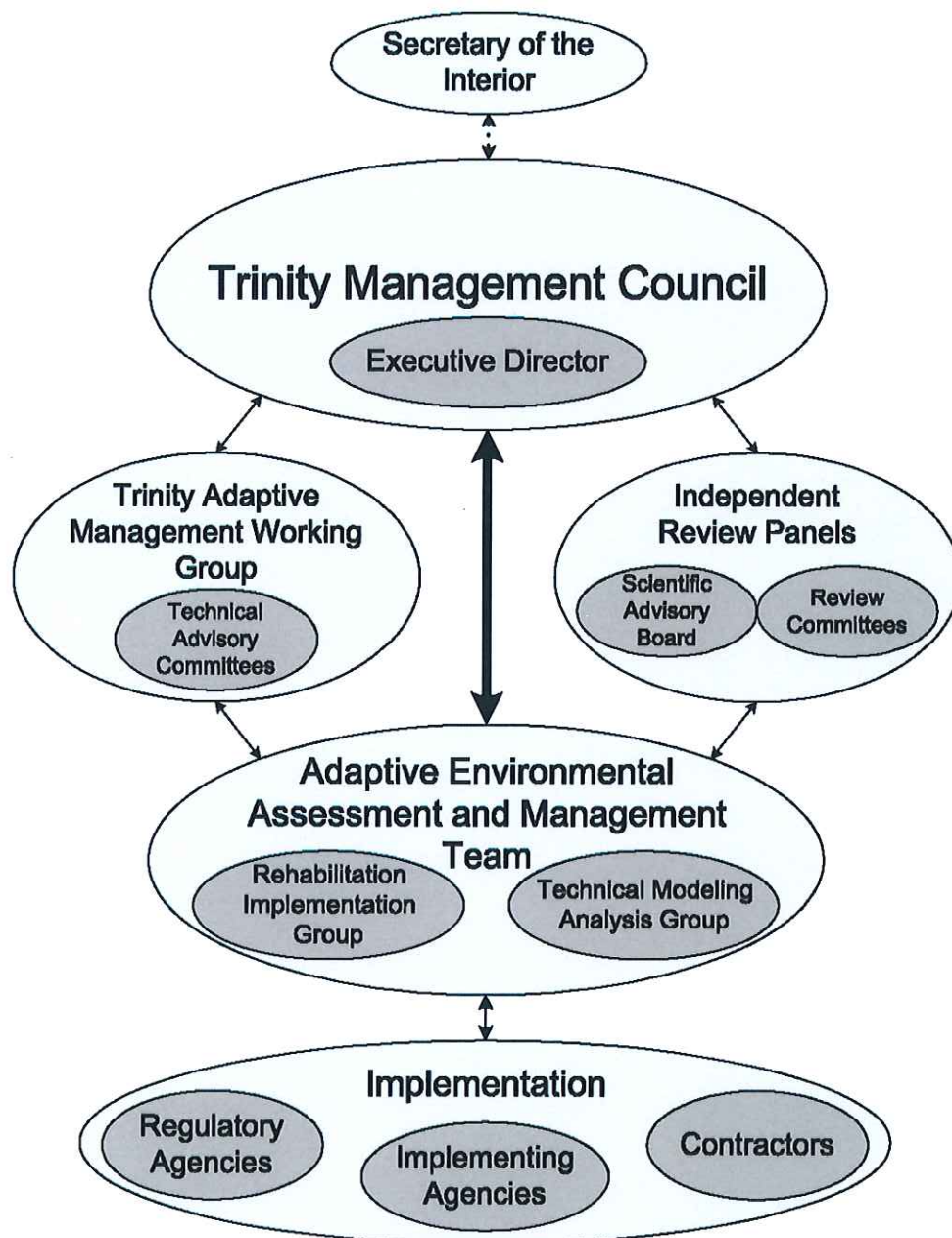
Currently, there are eight standing technical workgroups (WG) to provide scientific and technical input/recommendations for the TRRP. The workgroups include the Flow Workgroup,

the Physical Workgroup, the Watershed Workgroup, the Wildlife/Riparian Workgroup, the Data Workgroup, the Design Team, and the Interdisciplinary Team.

TRRP Organizational Structure

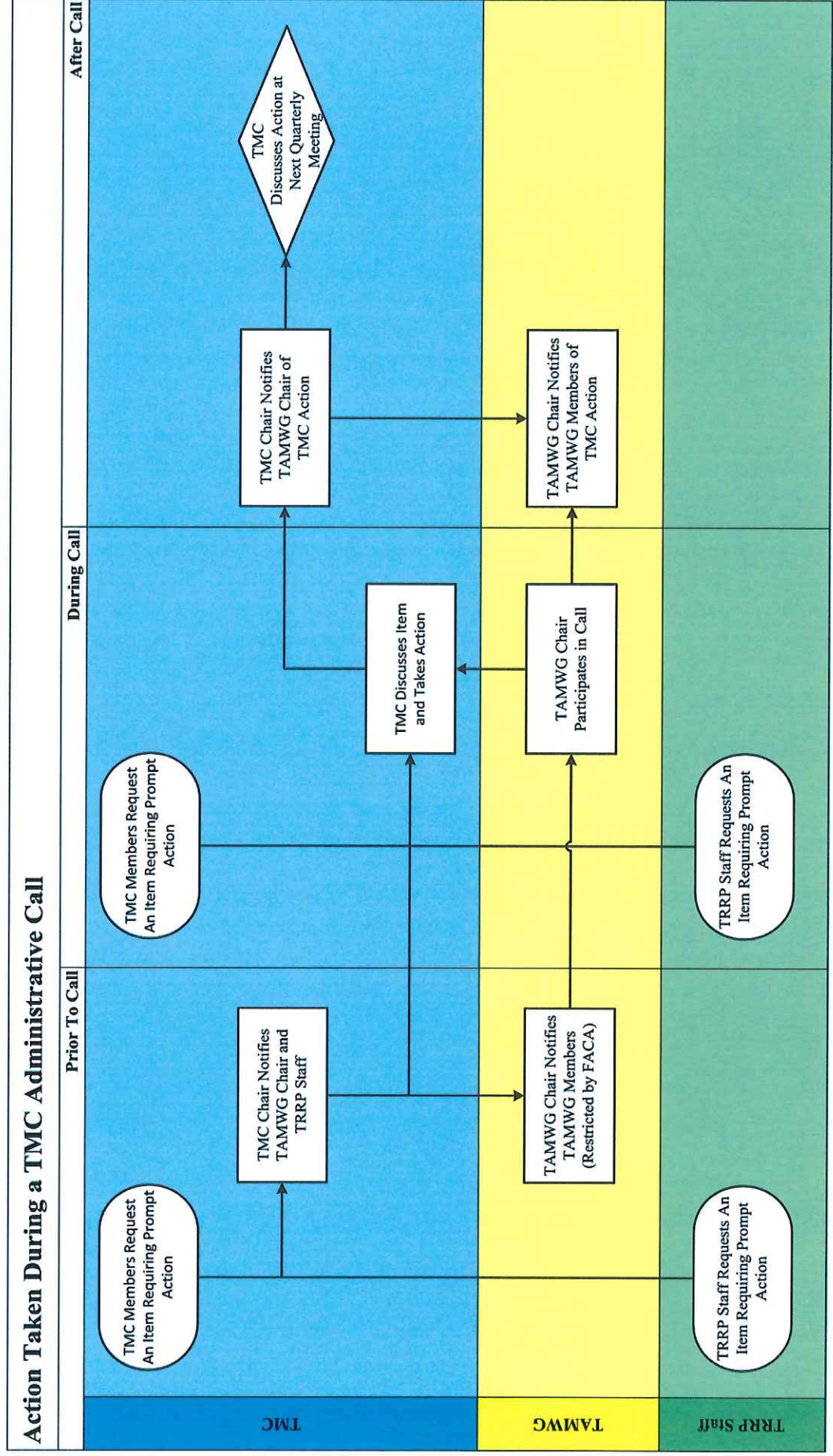
Organizational Chart

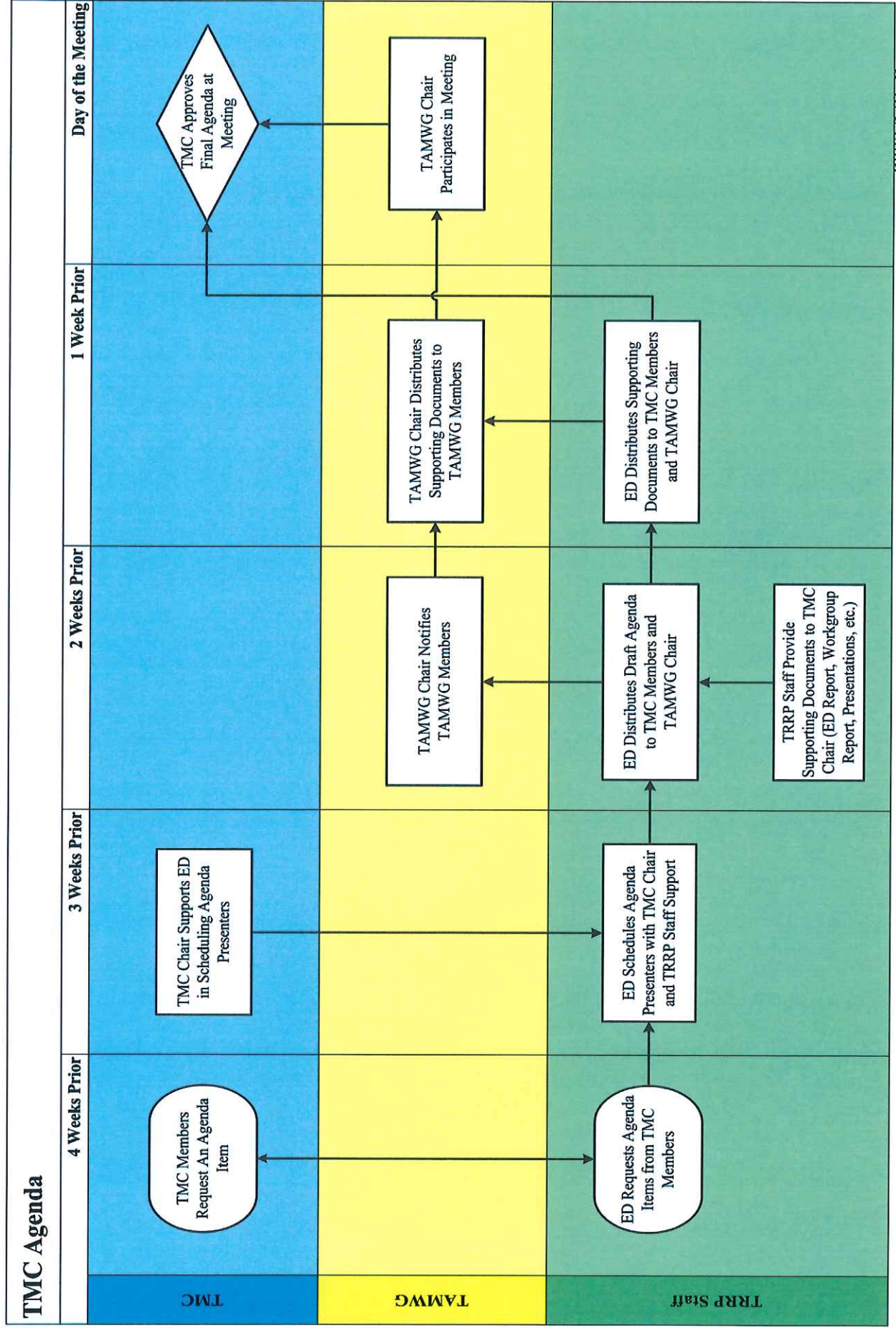
The following chart shows the organizational structure of the TRRP, as developed in the *Final Implementation Plan for the Preferred Alternative of the TREIS/R* (Stalnaker & Wittler 19-21).

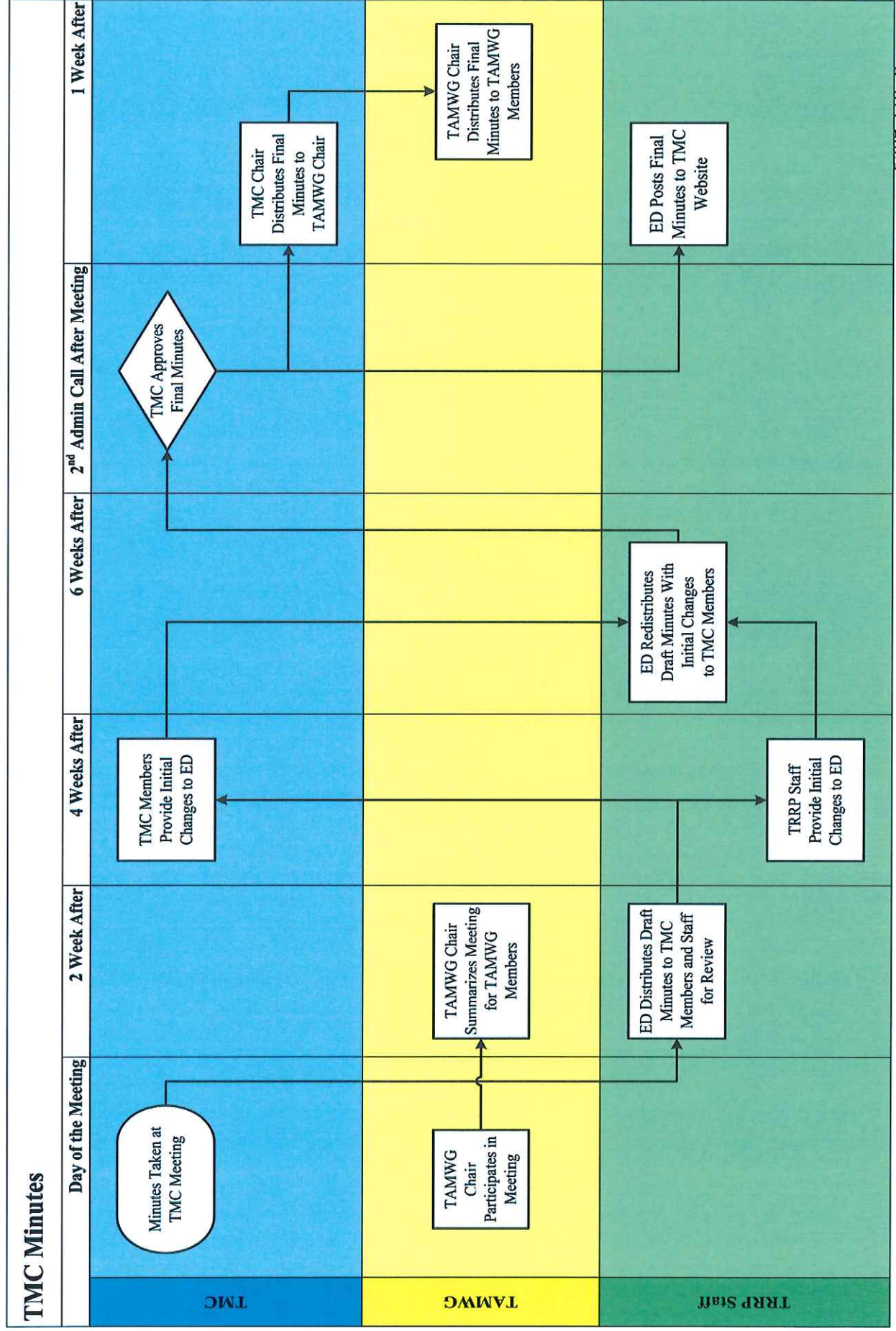


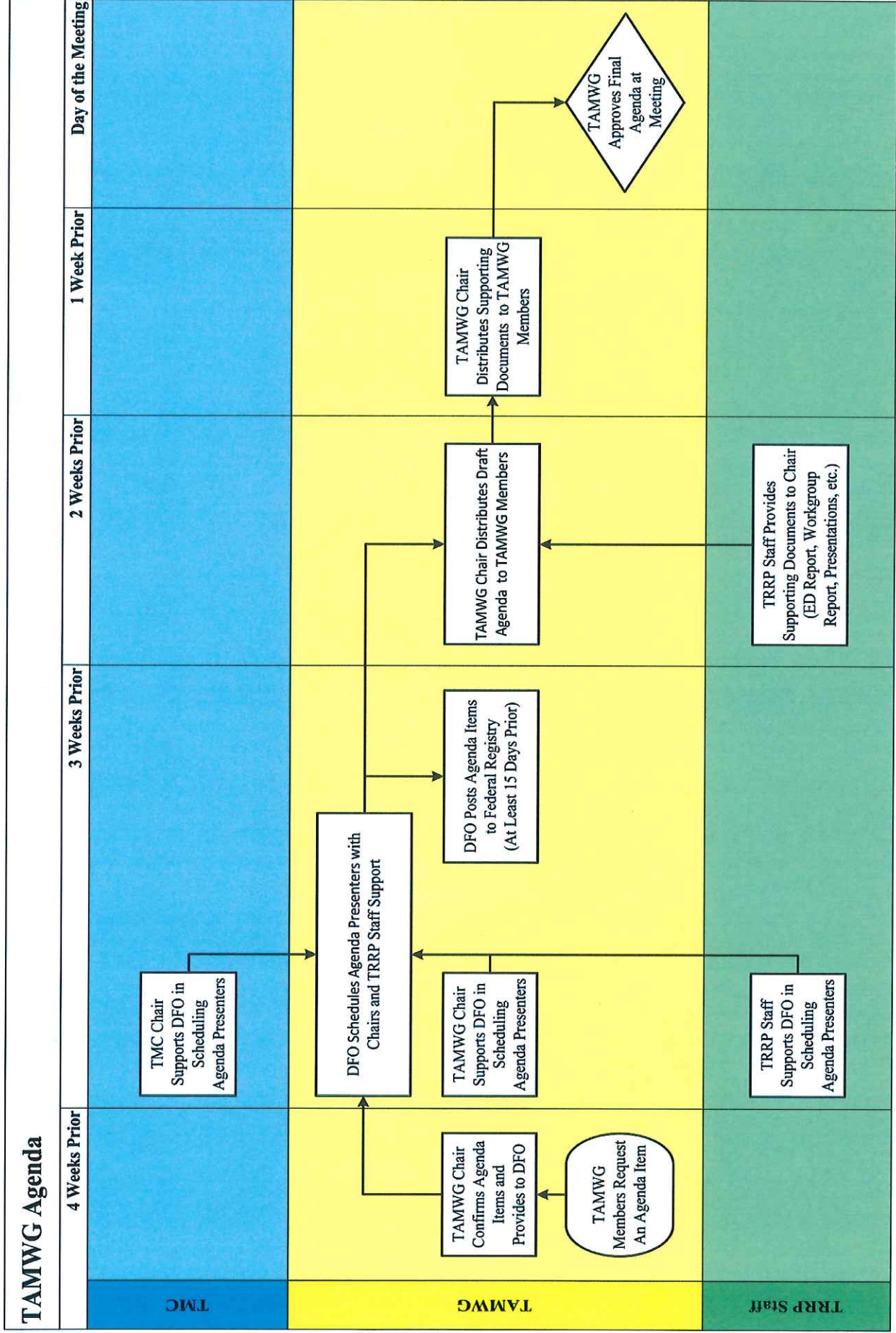
Communication Processes Administrative Calls

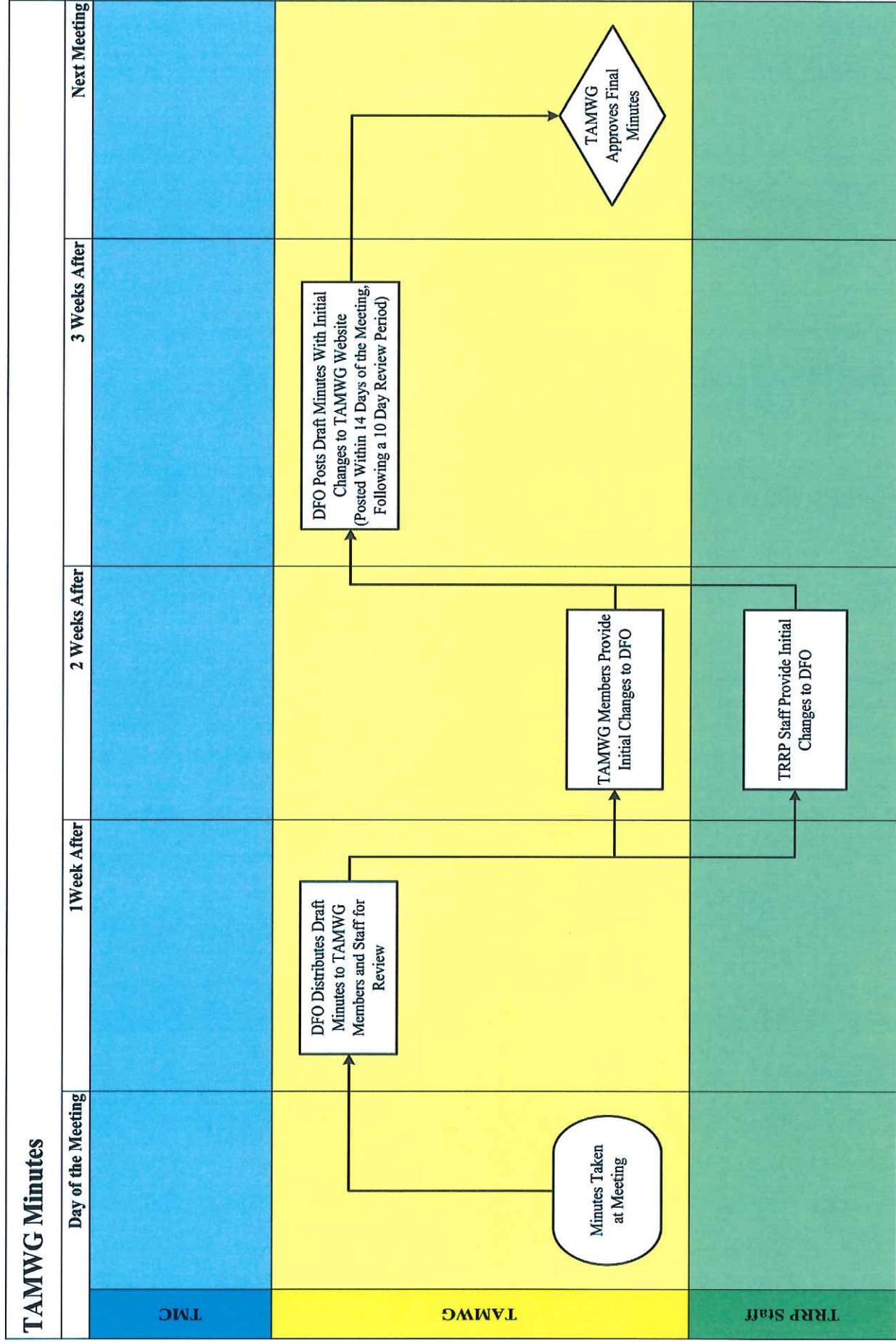
Administrative calls are a tool used by the TMC and the TAMWG, which are not open to the public, to address issues in between regular quarterly meetings. Due to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), TAMWG cannot have any substantive discussion or take any action outside of a public meeting. The TMC is not constrained by FACA and can make decisions/take action, as needed.



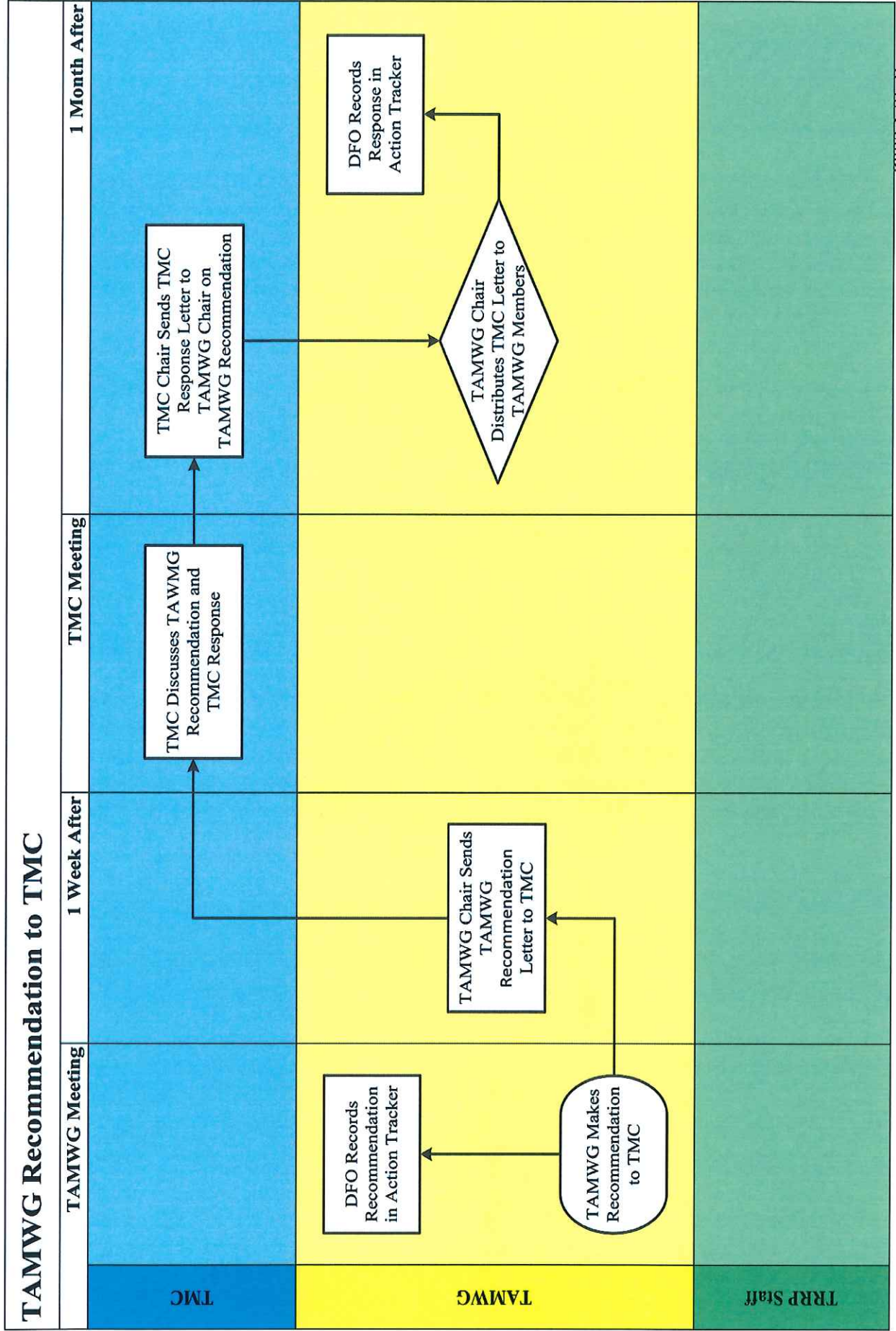


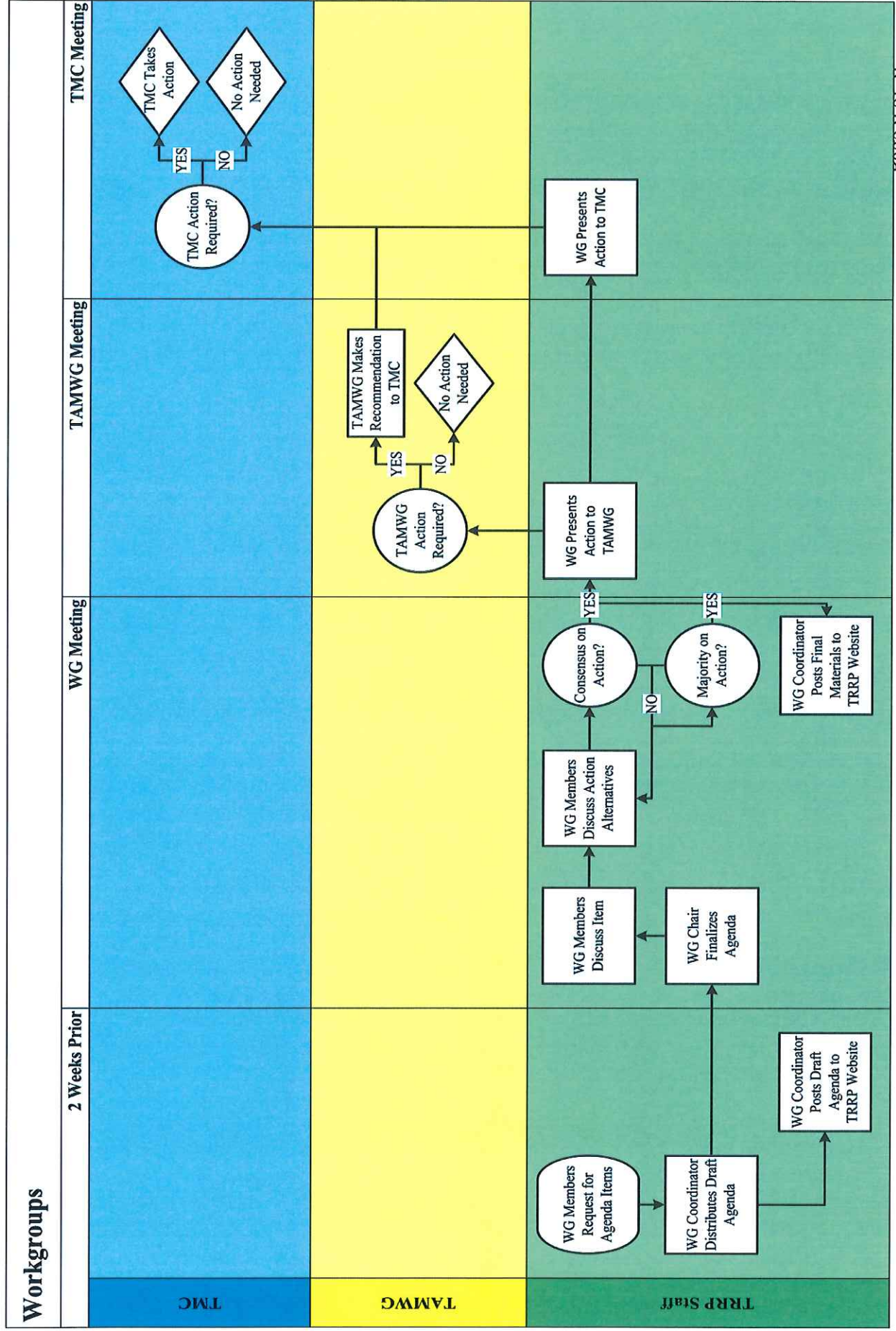






TAMWG Recommendations to TMC





June 23, 2015

Seth Naman, Chair
Trinity Management Council
c/o Trinity River Restoration Program
P.O. Box 1300
Weaverville, CA 96093

Dear Mr. Naman:

Five members of the TAMWG voted against the motion for the *"TMC to recommend that the Bureau of Reclamation limit Trinity River diversions to the Sacramento River this year to minimum amounts necessary in order to meet Trinity River Basin temperature objectives"* during the TAMWG meeting on June 16-17, 2015. This motion was opposed for the following reasons:

- 1) Changes to existing flow management practices, based solely on current water temperatures would have negative and far reaching impacts on other operational and flow regimes in the Sacramento system if the Trinity flow regime were to be arbitrarily changed based solely on temperature considerations in the Trinity River. Such changes must require consultation due to the broad range of impacts that would follow.
- 2) This recommendation demonstrates a willingness to ignore fisheries concerns in the Sacramento system and has the potential to pit those threatened or endangered species in one river system against those in the other river system. Science has determined the flow management criteria already, and random and arbitrary changes to that criteria should not be supported.
- 3) This recommendation demonstrates a lack of concern for impacts on power generation in the Sacramento system. While fisheries and environmental concerns are worthwhile and important concerns, likewise, power generation is vital. Supply is especially important during this summer where health, welfare, and greenhouse gas emissions would suffer from a shortage of carbon-free hydro power due to more restricted flows to the Sacramento River system.
- 4) Not only supply would be affected if this recommended change were acted upon, but rates for electrical generation and service would necessarily be impacted.
- 5) State and Federally threatened and endangered species have relied for decades on irrigated agriculture in the Sacramento Valley as surrogate wetland habitat. Even temporary flow regime changes in the Trinity based on temperature alone creates a threat to those irrigated lands that have been found necessary to the existence of over 200 species in the Sacramento Valley.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this minority opinion on the action in question.

Sincerely,

Sandy Denn
Elizabeth Hadley
Paul Hauser
Paul Catanese
Kelli Gant