



Trinity River Restoration Program

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JUN 16 2015

Mr. David Murillo, Regional Director
Mid-Pacific Region
Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Murillo:

The Trinity Management Council passed a motion during its September 2014 meeting that requests additional exploration of alternatives and options identified in the Temperature Management Intermediate Technical Memorandum (Reclamation 2012). During this meeting, Mike Orcutt made a motion "to approve a letter to Mid-Pacific Region of Reclamation calling for completion of studies of alternatives and options identified in Temperature Management Intermediate Technical Memorandum (Reclamation 2012). Such studies are required to identify an effective approach to Trinity River temperature management problems in the face of climate change and increasing water demand in California's Central Valley, and to move toward construction of the preferred design." Bill Brock seconded the motion, and the motion passed with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes. Reclamation abstained.

There is a long history of stakeholder and TMC discussions of temperature management and carry over storage to ensure meeting temperature targets, especially during prolonged periods of low precipitation and projections of below normal storage in Trinity Reservoir. In response to these concerns, it is acknowledged by the TMC that Reclamation funded the two following studies:

USBR (2012) Lewiston Temperature Management Intermediate Technical Memorandum, Lewiston Reservoir, Trinity County, California. Report by U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, Sacramento, CA.

Bender MD (2012) Trinity Reservoir Carryover Storage Cold Water Pool Sensitivity Analysis. Technical Memorandum No. 86-68220-12-06, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Technical Service Center, Denver, CO.

With anticipation of continued drought conditions in 2015 TMC partners were proactive in providing a presentation at the June 2014 TMC meeting that resulted in the September motion. At the same meeting, Reclamation staff presented information about ongoing temperature and climate studies taking place within Reclamation.

Trinity Management Council

Seth Naman, Chair, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration-Fisheries – Federico Barajas, Bureau of Reclamation –
Teri Simon-Jackson, USDA Forest Service - Mike Orcutt, Hoopa Valley Tribe - Dave Hillemeier, Yurok Tribe –
Teresa Connor, California Department of Water Resources – Keith Groves, Trinity County
Bruce Bingham, US Fish & Wildlife Service – Robin Schrock, Executive Director

The motion passed at the September meeting was also discussed at the TMC meeting on December 17, 2014. In this regard, Reclamation presented background information on order WR 90-5 that directs cold water temperature management in the river, the Sacramento River Temperature Task Group, and the annual operations plan that is developed and submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board. Additionally, the presentation identified a conceptual plan (an idea) to better understanding cold water pool formation in Trinity Reservoir. And finally, the presentation touched on recent and ongoing studies regarding climate change specific to the Trinity and Klamath River basins. Two web links were provided during the presentations directing TMC members to Reclamation documents regarding climate change impacts to water resources (<http://www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/wcra/docs/ssjbia/ssjbia.pdf> , and <http://www.usbr.gov/climate/SECURE/docs/SECUREWaterReport.pdf>). Again, the TMC appreciates Reclamation taking the time to provide this information.

In closing, The TMC appreciates the Mid-Pacific Region's continued efforts to explore effective approaches to Trinity River temperature management in the face of climate change and increasing water demand in California's Central Valley. We ask that you take the next steps as outlined in USBR (2012) to identify the alternatives to be carried forward for a more detailed evaluation. We look forward to future collaboration and coordination in this regard.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Seth Naman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Seth Naman, Chairman
Trinity Management Council