



## 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:** June 16, 2015

The major activities between March and June 2015 were release of the innovative Dry Water Year hydrograph to effect geomorphic change in the face of continuing drought conditions. The Program secured the Fine and Coarse Sediment and the Water Quality Certification for Rehabilitation Projects from the Water Quality Control Board to enable all Program restoration activities to proceed this year.

### **Budget Update**

The TRRP FY2016 proposed budget reflects the decrease noted in the President's budget and the Program awaits congressional budget deliberations, therefore amounts for all discretionary work will be adjusted when the Program is funded for 2016. Estimates are found in italics. We want to thank everyone who met procurement deadlines and provided the extensive information now required completing their agreements or contract packages. Restoration funding was reinstated to \$2M and the program plans to fund both Limekiln Gulch and Buck tail Phase 1 rehabilitation project construction in FY2015.

### **Organizational Updates**

Brandt Gutermuth applied for and was selected as the Acting Implementation Branch Chief and will serve on a 6 month detail. We also congratulate him on being selected for the Aspiring Leaders Program within the Mid-Pacific Region of Reclamation.

A Scientific Advisory Board member position is being filled to replace Clair Stalnaker who was instrumental in developing the science foundation for the Program through participation in the

Trinity River Flow Evaluation Study and as a co-author of the Implementation Plan. Clair will continue with the Program in emeritus status and we hope to see him at our workshops and science symposia in the future.

Dr. Todd Buxton joined our partnership Program as the TRRP-USFWS fishery biologist on June 1 with the Weaverville Office as his duty station. He will apply his expertise in biophysical interactions in streams to help restore the Trinity River and will work most directly with the gravel augmentation, channel rehabilitation and flow workgroups to foster a better understanding of hydrologic and geomorphic processes to help restore fisheries populations and the biologic productivity of the Trinity River.

Ernest Clarke, the TRRP Science Coordinator, has accepted a position with the USFWS Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia and leaves the Program this month. Joe Polos will serve as the Acting Science Coordinator.

### **Science Updates**

- Technical workgroup progress is provided in the quarterly work group report (handout)
- 2016 Investigation Plan has been provided to the Scientific Advisory Board for review.
  - The TRRP Management Team completed will now complete the administrative review and used this preliminary work plan to formulate an estimated budget. Trinity Management Council will discuss the estimated budget at their meeting on June 24 - 25 in Eureka, CA.
  - Two activities in the Fiscal Year 2016 summary are currently underway: (1) riparian vegetation simulation (SRH-1D/2D model) and (2) river corridor planning.
- Integration of Fish Production – SRH2D Models:
  - Downriver data gather in 2014 is being shared with the group
  - Comparisons of mapping data and 2-3 sites are in discussion
  - Current model run output is being compared to the previous run
- DSS (handout)

### **Compliance Update**

- 3 Long-term (5-year) water quality certifications have been renewed by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Permits and their renewal dates include:
  - Coarse Sediment Management (April 28, 2015; WDID No. 1A09154WNTR),
  - Fine Sediment Management (April 28; 2015; WDID No. !A)(!%%WNTR), and
  - Channel Rehabilitation (May 20, 2015; Order No. R1-2015-0026)
- The Limekiln Gulch EA was finalized May 22, 2015 and FONSI has been signed.
- The scoping letter for Lower Dutch Creek has been signed and was distributed by the USFS:

## Implementation Update

- Upper Douglas City - The contractor will mobilize to site late June or early July.
- Limekiln Gulch - The Yurok Tribe will be constructing the project this summer.
- Bucktail 1 - The phased project is moving forward with a phased approach with construction by the Hoopa Valley Tribe
- Design Efforts
  - The second iteration of hydraulic model and evaluation of the Lower Valley Suite designs will begin June 26 with draft design reports for July 10<sup>th</sup>
  - The Value Engineering Study for the Lower Valley Suite will be conducted July

## Public Outreach

- **June 26** - Lower Valley Public Float (Contact Michele Gallagher, [magallagher@usbr.gov](mailto:magallagher@usbr.gov))
- **September 16** - Sediment Management Lessons Learned Workshop

## Publications and Reports

New TRRP products and associated Trinity River data packages and related publications are posted on <http://odp.trrp.net/>

[Curtis, J.A., S.A. Wright, J.T. Minear, and L.E. Flint. 2015.](#) Assessing geomorphic change along the Trinity River downstream from Lewiston Dam, California, 1980–2011. U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2015–5046, 69 p., plus appendix, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3133/sir20155046>.

[Curtis, J.A., and T.M. Guerrero. 2015.](#) Geomorphic mapping to support river restoration on the Trinity River downstream from Lewiston Dam, California, 1980–2011. U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2015–1047, 15 p., <http://dx.doi.org/10.3133/ofr20151047>.

[Graham Matthews and Associates \(GMA\). 2015.](#) Trinity River WY2014 sediment transport monitoring final report. GMA, Weaverville, CA.

[HVT and McBain Associates. 2015.](#) Trinity River project area riparian mapping. Technical Memorandum. Hoopa Valley Tribe and McBain Associates, Hoopa, 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 997.-100.6). Final environmental assessment/ initial study. Trinity River Restoration Program. SCH #20150220080.

[TRRP. 2015.](#) Trinity River Restoration Program 2014 Annual Report. Trinity River Restoration Program, Weaverville, CA.

**Save the Date - August 13** – Joint Meeting, North Fork Grange, Junction City, CA.