



NC-150

MEMORANDUM

TO: TMC Members and Alternates; TAMWG Members

FROM: Doug Schleusner, Executive Director
Trinity River Restoration Program

CC: Staff

SUBJECT: Director's Report; September 27, 2007 – January 4, 2008

DATE: January 8, 2008

1. Summary: This report was originally intended to cover the period ending in late December, 2007. Due to scheduling conflicts with the Klamath Settlement meetings, the TMC meeting was postponed and rescheduled for early January 2008. Primary areas of emphasis and accomplishments for the TRRP staff and partners during the past quarter have included: 1) final NEPA/CEQA compliance documents for Lewiston/Dark Gulch; 2) conceptual designs and planning for the Remaining 8 channel rehab sites; 3) IAP deliberations, editing, and writing to complete Part 1 and workshop planning for Part 2; and 4) budget planning for FY2009 and FY2010.
2. General Program Administration:
 - Personnel: We recently filled the vacancy left when Denise Wiltse moved to Cal Trans in Redding about a year ago. Israel Patterson, a recent graduate of Chico State University, just started a three month rotational engineer assignment at Shasta Dam, and will join us permanently here in Weaverville in early April. He has an excellent set of skills and comes highly recommended. We are looking forward to his arrival.

Many of you know by now that Ed Solbos, RIG Branch Chief, announced his retirement effective May 3, 2008. Ed has given the implementation side of this program many years of dedicated, inspirational, and productive leadership. We – I – will miss him immensely. My goal now is to fill the position with a highly qualified candidate as quickly as possible to allow for a 3-4 week overlap in April to make this transition as smooth and least disruptive as possible.

- Public Education and Outreach: Several meetings have been held to discuss overall objectives and more detailed design elements for a refurbished kiosk at the Trinity River Hatchery. There has been good progress under Diana Clifton's leadership, and our goal is to have it completed before Memorial Day weekend (refer to Diana's handout).
- FY2008 Budget: Both houses of Congress passed the Omnibus Appropriations Bill for FY2008 on December 17, and it was signed by the President several days later. Report language for the bill included a provision adding \$3 million from the CVP Restoration Fund to the \$1 million already included in the President's Budget. Refer to the Director's handout on this subject for more information.
- FY2009 Budget Development: As requested by the TMC in September, a "budget subcommittee" met on October 31 to discuss how to develop a streamlined budget approval process for FY2009 while also focusing most of our energies on fully implementing an RFP-based budget and acquisition process for FY2010. Refer to the FY2009 budget memo and spreadsheet handouts for more detail.

3. Rehabilitation Implementation Branch:

- Channel Restoration Sites: Locations and conceptual designs are being developed for the "Remaining 8" sites in Phase 1, and the current schedule calls for construction contract award in the spring of 2009. With their completion in the summer and fall of 2009, this would bring the total number of sites constructed to 24.
- Lewiston/Dark Gulch Rehab Site: The public review period for the Lewiston/Dark Gulch EA/EIR closed on January 8, 2008. The project continues on schedule, with award of the contract expected in late spring. A new alternative for the Dark Gulch area was identified at the August IDTeam meeting, and differing viewpoints were presented at the September TMC meeting. Project Engineer Joe Riess described the issue in detail, along with TRRP staff concerns about engineering feasibility. The Director advised the TMC that in the absence of other direction we would continue to implement the preferred alternative as currently designed. The TMC chose not to take any action, thus allowing the project to proceed. This subject has been reintroduced at the request of the Hoopa Valley Tribe.
- Gravel Augmentation: Approximately 1,500 tons stockpiled at the USFS Diversion Pool site and 1,000 tons stockpiled at the CDFG Sawmill site will be injected during this year's high flows (May 2008). Approximately 13,000 tons are stockpiled at the Indian Creek rehab site for placement at the Lewiston/Dark Gulch project this summer.

4. Modeling and Analysis Branch:

- Scientific Framework and Integrated Assessment Plan (IAP): IAP Workshop #0 took place November 6-8 in Weaverville. The IAP steering committee continues to meet and coordinate completion of Part 1 edits and the series of workshops this winter and next spring (see calendar below).

- Outmigrant Review: The draft report for the Outmigrant Review was distributed on December 21, 2007. There will be a presentation to the fishery workgroup on January 22, 2008 by North State Resources and their sub-contractors, ESSA Technologies, and Dr. Carl Schwarz, Simon Frasier University.
5. Recent Events and Meetings (Periodically refer to website calendar for updates):
- October 13 – Trinity County Salmon Festival, Weaverville
 - October 16-17 – IAP Riparian “microgroup” workshop, Weaverville (by invitation)
 - October 20 – Return of the Salmon Festival, Coleman Hatchery
 - October 25 – NCRWQCB Quarterly Meeting, Triennial Review; Weaverville
 - October 31 – Budget Subcommittee, initial meeting on FY2009-2010, Weaverville
 - November 6-8 – IAP Workshop #0 (Wrap-up Part I; Plan Part II) Weaverville
 - November 30 – Trinity River Hatchery kiosk design team meeting, Lewiston
 - December 3 – Fishery Workgroup meeting, Weaverville
 - December 6-7 – TAMWG Meeting, Weaverville
 - December 17 – Channel rehab site design (IDT) meeting, Weaverville
 - December 18 - Trinity River Hatchery kiosk design team meeting, Redding
 - December 19 – RCD public hearing for Lewiston/Dark Gulch project, Weaverville
6. Upcoming Events (Periodically refer to website calendar for updates):
- January 8-9 – TMC meeting (rescheduled from December), Weaverville
 - January 11 - Trinity River Hatchery kiosk design team meeting, Lewiston
 - January 15-17, 2008 – IAP Workshop #1 – “Fish to Habitat” (F2H), location TBD
 - January 22 – TAMWG meeting (special budget review session), Weaverville
 - January 23-24 – Klamath Settlement meetings, Redding (?)
 - March 4-6, 2008 – IAP Workshop #2 – “Habitat to Physical” (H2P), location TBD
 - March 18-19 (tentative) – TAMWG meeting, Weaverville
 - March 25-26 (tentative) – TMC meeting, Weaverville or Arcata
 - April 22-24, 2008 – IAP Workshop #3 – Part II Draft Compilation, location TBD

