ATTACHMENT #1

WY2011 Flow Release Update and Flow Report Planning
Prepared for: Trinity Adaptive Management Workgroup
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WY2011 Flow Release Update

Field tours have qualitatively indicated that geomorphic change has occurred in several reaches. Natural and constructed gravel bars have experienced a variety of responses including: development of new bars, growth of existing bars, translation of existing bars, and shrinkage or elimination of existing bars. These changes have occurred throughout the river, both in or near channel rehabilitation sites and also far away. Bar formation has cut off the entrance to the constructed side channel at Trinity House Gulch. Bank erosion has occurred in several locations. Small scour holes have formed in front of many constructed large wood structures. It appears that a couple of pools have partially filled and one new pool has formed. Conclusions on the nature and extent of geomorphic change are premature until quantitative analyses can be conducted. Data from the WY2011 flow release will not become available for analysis until 2012.

Plan to Improve Flow Reporting and Adaptive Management

The Flow Workgroup has identified improving the adaptive management process surrounding the annual flow releases as a top priority. To do so, a series of 4 flow reports are currently being proposed:

1. Annual flow planning report
   Lays out purpose, experiments, hypotheses/questions/uncertainties being addressed, predictions, potential risks, confounding variables, and supporting information for proposed annual flow release alternatives. Circulated to TAMWG and TMC before they deliberate the flow releases.

2. Annual flow release report
   Documents the actual flow release, any operational issues, water volume released, monitoring conducted, and lists reports anticipated. This is a simple report that should be easy to write. It is limited to what happened without analysis or interpretation.

3. Current Knowledge Assessment
   Analysis, synthesis, and interpretation to improve understanding of physical and ecological effects of flow releases. Updates conceptual models and hypothesis and makes recommendations for adaptive management. Conducted periodically, roughly every 3 years.

4. Proposed Adaptive Management Flow Experiments
   A compilation of short briefing memos on the various adaptive management flow experiments under consideration.