



Trinity River Restoration Program

P.O. Box 1300, 1313 South Main Street, Weaverville, California 96093

June 18, 2012

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

Dear Mr. Person:

The Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG) met on June 12, 2012. This letter serves to provide you with a summary of that meeting along with our policy management recommendations and advice, as required by TAMWG's Bylaws.

During the public comment period we received a letter from Gail Goodyear (attached). Since we are not to act on any item brought before us during the public comment period, we felt that the only reasonable course of action was to pass this letter on to you for your consideration. We would, however, appreciate being cc-d in any response to the letter that the TMC wished to take.

We greatly appreciate the TMC's timely response to our March 27, 2012 letter and felt that you addressed all of our recommendations adequately. We are looking forward to our joint meeting and hope to discuss how to deal with the growing number of stakeholder concerns with the TRRP, as well how best to address public comments that are received during our meetings.

We received an informative update from the TRRP Executive Director, Robin Schrock, as well as a status report from each workgroup and the 2012 water year. We are anxious for the release of the hatchery report (due out later this summer) and the Phase 1 Review (expected out late fall) in order to provide you with our comments and recommendations.

On behalf of the TAMWG, I thank you for your consideration of our recommendations, and am available to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hadley, Chair
Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group

CC: Nancy Finley, Curtis Milliron, Ann Garrett, Mike Orcutt, Dave Hillemeier, Sharon Heywood, Roger Jaegel, Gail Goodyear, Robin Schrock

Gail Goodyear
P.O. Box 1120
Weaverville, CA 96093
June 11, 2012

Dear Trinity Adaptive Management Group (TAMWG) members,

At the March 28 2012 Trinity Management Council (TMC) meeting, one presenter stated that the government gathers copious data that is not shared in research reports. The presenter noted the importance of doing something with the data.

The presenter's PowerPoint slide supporting need for research reporting also showed the problem is much deeper. Data are gathered before the research design, including hypothesis and assumptions are written. Thus, the scientific method is not followed in collecting data.

After this problem was noted, D.J. Bandrowski of the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) stated that those writing the research reports scheduled for release in 2012 had requested hypotheses and assumptions for the data sets they were provided, and TRRP is writing those (Spring 2012). I shared that TRRP had been unable to provide the research designs for monitoring TRRP's Reading's Creek project prior to its 2010 implementation.

Writing of research designs, hypotheses and assumptions after data collection is not science. The research is not defensible. It is not research to select data to fit desired outcomes and then write the research design.

Given lack of written and approved research designs, including how the data and research will be used, it is appropriate for landowners to refuse land access to government workers who gather data. Prior to data collection, TRRP and the coordinating agencies must provide to landowners the research designs along with parameters regarding how the data and research reports will be used.

Reports written to fit data puts all river research in question. This is unfortunate for those who follow the scientific method. It is possible to improve the quality of river research. This letter asks the Trinity River Adaptive Management Group (TRAMWG) to request that (1) research designs are written prior to TRRP project implementation, (2) the research design(s) is (are) shared with landowners when access is requested, (3) the data collection is limited to that which is described in the research design(s), and (4) the scope for use of the data and research is defined for each proposed study.

Sincerely,

Gail Goodyear, Ph.D.
Letter submitted for the June 11 2012 TAMWG meeting