Draft 2 Minutes

TRINITY ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Monday, December 15, 2014
Weaverville Fire Hall, 2051 Main St, Weaverville, CA

Monday December 15, 2014 9:30 AM

Attending Members

Member	Representative Seat:
Elizabeth Hadley	Chair, City of Redding Electric Utility Department
Darren Mierau [1]	Vice-chair, California Water Impact Network
Gil Saliba	Redwood Regional Audubon Society
Ed Duggan	Willow Cr. Comm. Serv. Dist., E. Humboldt Co. and small businesses
Richard Lorenz	Trinity County Resident
David Steinhauser	Six Rivers Outfitters and Guides Association
Kelli Gant	Trinity Lake Revitalization Alliance
Paul Hauser	Trinity Public Utilities District

1) Alternate for Tom Stokely

Members that did not attend

Member:	Representative Seat:
Emelia Berol	Northcoast Environmental Center
Joe McCarthy	Commercial Fishing Guide
Tiffany Hayes	Natural Resource Conservation Service
Sandy Denn	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Jeffrey Sutton	Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority
Liam Gogan	Trinity River Fishing Guides

Designated Federal Officer: Joe Polos, Fish and Wildlife Service, Arcata, CA.

Other attendees: Justin Day (City of Redding Electric Utility Department); Dave Wellock, (member of the public); Vina Frye (USFWS); Robin Schrock, D.J. Bandrowski, and Ernie Clarke (TRRP); Tim Hayden (Yurok Tribe); Brian Person (Bureau of Reclamation).

Notes: Kim Mattson (ENW).

List of Motions Made during the Meeting

Kelli Gant made a motion to approve the agenda.

Paul Hauser seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Paul Hauser made a motion to accept the September 2014 TAMWG minutes.

Kelli Gant seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ed Duggan made a motion that the TAMWG make a motion to send a letter of support for membership to TMC.

Dave Steinhauser seconded the motion.

The vote had 4 yes votes and 4 no votes and the motion did not pass.

Action Items Designated during the Meeting

There were no action items assigned during the meeting.

Meeting Minutes by Agenda Item

1. Welcome, Introductions, Approve Agenda and Minutes

Elizabeth Hadley opened the meeting for the Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG). She moved discussion to the agenda.

Kelli Gant made a motion to approve the agenda.

Paul Hauser seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Minutes

Paul Hauser made a motion to accept the September 2014 TAMWG minutes.

Kelli Gant seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Comment

Dave Wellock commented that he had not been notified about increased fall flows in the Trinity River. Some of his equipment floated down the river.

3. Designated Federal Officer Items

Joe Polos designated Federal Officer, provided updates on the charter and membership renewal. The charter should be approved before Christmas. The approval for membership should be done by the end of the year. He passed out copies of the Action Tracker discussed areas where the TMC had modified or differed slightly from the TAMWG recommendations. The channel rehabilitation sites for 2016 were changed from the TAMWG recommendation based on Design Team updated information. For Lewiston Hatchery Site, the TAMWG recommended no channel rehabilitation or gravel placement but the TMC directed the program to proceed with gravel augmentation, as warranted, in sections of the river below the weir hole. TMC recommended that no channel rehabilitation occur at this site and that the issue be revisited in four years. Elizabeth

Hadley noted that the Action Tracker showed that many of the TAMWG's recommendations are being approved by the TMC.

4. Trinity Management Council Update

Brian Person, Trinity Management Council (TMC) Chair, made his presentation following Item 5. He announced that Shasta Reservoir has been filling and has gained 25 feet with this last set of storms. They are now at 35% capacity. Trinity Reservoir has gone up about 150,000 acre-feet. This is a good start.

He said this is his last meeting and will be his last TMC meeting later this week. Fredrico Barrejas has been selected the next Bureau Northern California Area Office manager. Person will be the acting supervisor at Klamath Basin Area Office to relieve the regular supervisor for the next three months. He will retire after that.

He commented on some reactions of the TMC to TAMWG recommendations. He said TMC agreed to suspend planning activities at the Lewiston Hatchery but gravel should still be placed as needed, depending on water year and recommended hydrographs. He said the TMC was not very well prepared to address the communication process and will address it at its upcoming meeting. He explained where the TMC had some differences. Rich Lorenz asked if any of the flooding got shipped south to storage. Person said there is a lot of interest in storage at Seitz Reservoir but did not have hard numbers. Efforts to enlarge Shasta are in the final stages of the comments stage. Reclamation and their partners plan to have draft document for 2015 flows available for comment by the end of the year.

About his work, he said he had a wonderful experiences working with the TRRP and the Bureau of Reclamation. He regretted not being about to address all unfinished issues. Elizabeth Hadley thanked Person and noted that the large number of items that the TMC accepted as shown by the Action Tracker. The TAMWG gave Person applause. Ed Duggan expressed his thanks for Person's efforts in communications.

5. Executive Director Update

Robin Schrock, Executive Director of the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) handed out a copy of her memo to the TAMWG that constituted her report (Attachment 1). She noted the public floats on the river. Restoration funds are more restrictive as a result of the drought. Robert Stewart joined the TRRP Weaverville staff as a hydraulic engineer. Linsey Walker is the new grants and agreements technician.

Schrock next passed out a handout on the science update (Attachment 2). Schrock noted some of the highlights of the various workgroups. She noted that Robert Stewart has taken over the Flow Workgroup. Joe Polos commented on a recent Fish Workgroup meeting and their activities and providing comments to the objectives refinement exercise. Gravel Workgroup is focusing their efforts to Sediment Management Plan and are committing to an adaptive management effort.

Schrock commented on a discussion she had with the Solicitors. It was explained to her that CVPIA authorizations of funding do not support fisheries work in tributaries. She moved to Implementation Updates and noted public outreach and middle school activities.

Darren Mierau asked about the Solicitors opinions and if it was part of a larger discussion. Schrock said she had pursued more definition of the statutory limitation. She said they had worked within their limitations but there is the issue of the watershed work. She said they can guide a watershed program.

6. TRRP Workgroups Updates

This item was covered as part of Item 5.

7. TRRP Implementation Update

D.J. Bandrowski presented after Item 9 on the Design Update as part of the Workgroup summary and noted the TAMWG could follow along on the bullets in Attachment 2. He made a few comments on Lower Junction City on revegetation. He next moved to the 2024 design cycle and the three sites that are being finalized. He made comments on the plan for 2015. Most projects are moving forward; Upper Bucktail is on hold waiting funding. Dutch Creek is on hold because of funding and environmental. Trinity County is seeking funding on Bucktail Bridge.

Bandrowski next commented on the new design process proposed to maintain efficiency. He passed out a memo describing the new design process (Attachment 3) and a flowchart (Attachment 3a). The main change is a shift from individual groups doing an entire design to a more integrated approach where each group working on specializations in all design efforts.

Darren Mierau asked about the large woody debris plans. Bandrowski said it was just beginning and did not have any information at this time. Ed Duggan asked about the design process becoming larger. Bandrowski said the science and monitoring has suggested that more side channels and more complex features are needed to help increase juvenile rearing.

Kelli Gant asked about how much they know about the value of large woody debris. Bandrowski said the biologists consider wood as essential for fish habitat. This question prompted more discussion on the evidence for the benefits of woody debris and the criteria of habitat in the Trinity which is currently defined as depth, velocity, and cover. Gil Saliba asked about the role of woody debris and if Tim Hayden could comment on the current literature on this. Hayden said the earlier river had more wood and that there is a role for wood now. Bandrowski said the primary reason for large log jams are hydrologic and secondarily for habitat. Ed Duggan said when he first saw the large jams, he thought they would be a navigation hazard. More recently he sees that the jams do hold fish but they do not have the effect on hydrology that was anticipated. Bandrowski said that with more high flows, they are expecting to see the hydrologic function. Duggan asked if they should be doing more effective monitoring to see how projects are working. Elizabeth Hadley noted that Robin Schrock's report lists the various reports and many of these are monitoring results.

8. Humboldt County's Request to Join the TMC

Ed Duggan gave some background on the TRRP and noted that Trinity County and Humboldt County were originally on the early planning but somehow Humboldt County was left off TMC. He said that Humboldt County has requested membership. He also noted that the South Fork Trinity River was in Humboldt County. Duggan made a motion for a letter of support for Humboldt County and David Steinhauser seconded. During the discussion of the motion, Rich Lorenz said that Humboldt County dropped out of their early membership on TAMWG. Paul Hauser agreed that Humboldt County should show interest in participation on the TAMWG.

Kelli Gant noted that this has not passed before and asked if this would aggravate issues to bring this up again. Duggan said he did not know how supportive the tribes are. The decision has to be unanimous and one vote has blocked this in the past. Duggan thinks this sentiment may be changing. He acknowledged that the move for membership is part of the 50,000 acre-feet claim by Humboldt County. Elizabeth Hadley expressed an opinion that Humboldt County is only interested in the 50,000 acre-feet. Hauser noted Humboldt is considering exports of water to

Sonoma County. Darren Mierau expressed an opinion that the 50,000 acre-feet for Humboldt is more for their interests in fish restoration. Rich Lorenz asked how confident the one no vote will change. Duggan did not known for certain as he did not talk to all the key persons. Gil Saliba asked if the 50,000 acre-feet could be legally diverted. No one knew.

Ed Duggan made a motion that the TAMWG make a motion to send a letter of support for membership to TMC.

Dave Steinhauser seconded the motion.

The vote had 4 yes votes and 4 no votes and the motion did not pass.

No votes were cast by Redding Electric, Trinity County PUC, Trinity Lake Revitalization, and Rich Lorenz, county citizen.

9. Phase I Review Workshop 1 Summary

Ernie Clarke presented after Item 7. He noted some efforts on monitoring and presentations on the Science Workshop on the Phase I review held October 30-31, 2014. He asked if the TAMWG found the workshop useful and what new topic they could take on next.

The TAMWG was generally positive. Rich Lorenz found the workshop useful and noted that some presentations changed his mind on some items. He thought the first day could be more oriented to the TAMWG and the second day more focused on the more technical issues. Kelli Gant noted that the second day seemed to be more focused on their successes and less on what lessons are being learned in an adaptive management mode. Gil Saliba complimented the effort. He thought there may be a bit of a "disconnect" between the monitoring and the design. He thinks monitoring is not well designed to meet the needs of design. He thinks the document could be well used for public outreach. Darren Mierau thought it was a very useful workshop and would welcome more. He suggested they hold it as a lead up to the next Science Advisory Board review. Ed Duggan said he got a lot out of the workshop and more than he did from the Phase I review. He noted he would like to see more on gravel management, and supported Saliba's suggestion on revised monitoring. He opined that gravel is not moving around like they thought but asked where all the gravel in the lower river coming from. Elizabeth Hadley thought it was important to have the long-term sediment management plan done first before having a workshop on this topic. Darren Mierau proposed more work on habitat issues. He noted the evidence of a dip in habitat as flows increase at moderate levels. Clarke noted that a set of abstracts will be prepared along with a list of uncertainties. Gil Saliba asked Clarke to pick the topic he felt would be best to present next and many of the TAMWG members agreed.

10. Discussion—TAMWG Information Needs and Communication

This effort was to initiate a discussion of whether the information being provided to the TAMWG is sufficient or needs to be changed. Elizabeth Hadley said she thought the content and amount information was sufficient. Gil Saliba also agreed and thanked Robin Schrock and Joe Polos for the information delivery. He noted that there was a lot of information and this required study and time to review it.

11. Discussion—TAMWG Objectives Identification

Joe Polos reviewed that a recommendation of the Phase I review was a Decision Support System (DSS). The DSS needs a set of objectives. This is being addressed by a meeting of the Interdisciplinary Team scheduled for January. For the next March meeting, they will be able to present a structure for the model and the objectives.

12. TMC Current Issues

Elizabeth Hadley said this would be a standing item on their agenda where they could bring up issue for the TMC. Up to this point, Hadley noted four issues. She noted the 2015 water year which had already been brought up. Second was compliance updates. Robin Schrock noted that Brandt Gutermuth would be making a presentation on this to the TMC. Hadley noted that the third issue was the DSS update and this had already discussed. The fourth issue was the Lower Klamath fish health monitoring. Kelli Gant mentioned the cold pool analysis. Robin Schrock noted that Paul Zedonis is assigned to this.

13. Set Next Meeting: Date and Location, Brainstorm Possible Agenda Items

Elizabeth Hadley said they likely could not set their next meeting date until they heard back from the TMC. Ed Duggan suggested they cover this in their next phone updates. A phone conference was scheduled for January 27 at 10 AM. Rich Lorenz asked to discuss the steel bridge gravel. Paul Hauser asked about a review of the fisheries restoration goals and if these unrealistic goals may be harmful to the program. Joe Polos said an effort is underway to dig up some of the evidence that is the basis of some of these goals.

Adjourn 12:00 PM

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Attachment 1: Executive Director's Report, December 15, 2014, handed out by Robin Schrock.

Attachment 2: Technical Workgroup Summary, December, 2014, handed out by Robin Schrock.

Attachment 3: Memo to TMC from Design Team, handed out by D.J. Bandrowski.

Attachment 3a: Design Team flowchart proposed process, handed out by D.J. Bandrowski.

Other Documents

Letter to Brian Person from Humboldt County regarding request for TMC membership.

Trinity River Adaptive Management Working Group

AGENDA

Meeting of December 15, 2014

NOTE: Times Subject to Change

In-Person Location Only: Weaverville Fire Hall (2051 Main Street, Weaverville, CA 96093)

MONDAY December 15, 2014: Start Time 9:30 AM

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter
9:30 AM	Welcome, Introductions, Approve Agenda & Minutes	TAMWG
9:45 AM	Public Comment *Note: In accordance with traditional meeting practices, TAMWG will not act on any public comment item during its current business meeting*	
10:00 AM	Designated Federal Officer Items	Joe Polos
10:15 AM	TMC Chair Update	Brian Person
10:45 AM	Executive Director Update	Robin Schrock
11:15 AM	TRRP Workgroups Update	Ernie Clarke
1:45 PM	TRRP Implementation Update	DJ Bandrowski
12:15 PM	**Lunch**	
1:15 PM	Humboldt County's Request to Join the TMC	Ed Dugan
1:45 PM	Phase I Review Workshop 1 Summary	Ernie Clarke/ Wes Smith
2:15 PM	Discussion –TAMWG Information Needs and Communication	TAMWG
2:45 PM	Discussion –TAMWG Objectives Identification	TAMWG
3:15 PM	TMC Current Issues	TAMWG
4:15 PM	Set Next Meeting: Date & Location; Brainstorm Possible Agenda Items	TAMWG
4:30 PM	**Adjourn**	