

June 23, 2015

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

Dear Mr. Naman:

Five members of the TAMWG voted against the motion for the *"TMC to recommend that the Bureau of Reclamation limit Trinity River diversions to the Sacramento River this year to minimum amounts necessary in order to meet Trinity River Basin temperature objectives"* during the TAMWG meeting on June 16-17, 2015. This motion was opposed for the following reasons:

- 1) Changes to existing flow management practices, based solely on current water temperatures would have negative and far reaching impacts on other operational and flow regimes in the Sacramento system if the Trinity flow regime were to be arbitrarily changed based solely on temperature considerations in the Trinity River. Such changes must require consultation due to the broad range of impacts that would follow.
- 2) This recommendation demonstrates a willingness to ignore fisheries concerns in the Sacramento system and has the potential to pit those threatened or endangered species in one river system against those in the other river system. Science has determined the flow management criteria already, and random and arbitrary changes to that criteria should not be supported.
- 3) This recommendation demonstrates a lack of concern for impacts on power generation in the Sacramento system. While fisheries and environmental concerns are worthwhile and important concerns, likewise, power generation is vital. Supply is especially important during this summer where health, welfare, and greenhouse gas emissions would suffer from a shortage of carbon-free hydro power due to more restricted flows to the Sacramento River system.
- 4) Not only supply would be affected if this recommended change were acted upon, but rates for electrical generation and service would necessarily be impacted.
- 5) State and Federally threatened and endangered species have relied for decades on irrigated agriculture in the Sacramento Valley as surrogate wetland habitat. Even temporary flow regime changes in the Trinity based on temperature alone creates a threat to those irrigated lands that have been found necessary to the existence of over 200 species in the Sacramento Valley.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this minority opinion on the action in question.

Sincerely,

Sandy Denn
Elizabeth Hadley
Paul Hauser
Paul Catanese
Kelli Gant

