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FEB 10 2003
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Arcata, CA

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

TRINITY RIVER ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

CHARTER

1. **Official Designation:** Trinity River Adaptive Management Working Group (Working Group).

2. **Scope and Objectives:** The purpose of the Trinity River Restoration Program is to restore the Trinity River basin's fish and wildlife populations to those that existed prior to construction of the Trinity River Diversion and to implement measures to restore fish and wildlife habitat in the basin. The Implementation Plan for the Preferred Alternative of the Trinity River Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report established an Adaptive Environmental Assessment and Management (AEAM) organization to design and direct monitoring and restoration activities in the Trinity River Basin and to provide recommendations for flow modifications, if necessary. As part of the AEAM organization, the Working Group provides an opportunity for stakeholders to give policy and management advice about restoration efforts. The Working Group will review and make recommendations that are being considered for implementation by the other parts of the AEAM. Recommendations submitted by the Working Group will be with regard to restoration activities identified as necessary to restore the Trinity River. Included as part of these recommendations is review of policy matters, technical issues, annual flow schedules, and Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for implementation activities as they relate to achieving restoration goals. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to submit alternative hypotheses (alternative methods and strategies) and/or alternative restoration actions to the Trinity Management Council for consideration.

3. **Duration:** We expect the need for the Working Group to exist for the duration of the Trinity River Restoration Program. Its continuation is, however, subject to biennial renewal. The Working Group will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that time, the charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of the Act.

4. **Official to Whom the Advisory Working Group Reports:** The Working Group reports to the Secretary of the Interior through the Trinity Management Council.

5. **Bureau Responsible for Providing Necessary Support:** The Fish and Wildlife Service will fund administrative and logistical support for the Working Group.

6. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs:** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Working Group's functions are estimated to be $100,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and one FTE required to support activities.

7. **Description of Duties:** The Working Group will:

a. Provide policy and management recommendations and advice to the Trinity Management Council on (1) effectiveness of management actions in achieving restoration goals and alternative hypotheses (strategies and methods) for study; (2) the priority for restoration projects; (3) funding priorities; and (4) other components of the Trinity River Restoration Program.

b. Develop and submit alternative hypotheses (strategies and methods) for consideration by the Trinity Management Council and potential analysis by the AEAM Technical Modeling and Analysis Group and the Rehabilitation Implementation Group.

c. Recommend management actions and studies for RFP development and implementation.

8. Allowances for Working Group Members: Members will serve without compensation for their services on the Working Group. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5703, non-Federal members will be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred while performing official business of the Working Group.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

a. The Working Group will meet at least twice per year at the call of the Designated Federal Officer in consultation with the Working Group chair or the Trinity Management Council. Working Group meetings will be open to the public and will be announced in the Federal Register at least 15 days prior to each meeting.

b. A majority of the currently-appointed membership of the Working Group will constitute a quorum for transaction of business.

c. The Designated Federal Officer will distribute a summary report of each Working Group meeting to the membership and others upon request. Detailed minutes of each Working Group meeting, as well as recommendations made and copies of all studies and reports received, issued, or approved in conjunction with the Working Group activities, will be available for public inspection and copying at the Trinity Management Council and the Trinity County Library in Waterville, California. The Working Group may provide written reports to the Trinity Management Council or Secretary on any aspect of the Restoration Program.

10. Membership:

a. Appointed members:

(1) There will be 12 to 20 members of the Working Group. Membership will be fairly balanced and will represent stakeholders, agencies, and tribes with interest in and a commitment to implementation of the Trinity River Restoration Program. Members should be senior representatives of their respective constituent groups with knowledge of the Trinity River Restoration Program including the Adaptive Environmental Assessment and Management Program. Working Group members will elect a chair, vice chair, and other officers as they deem necessary.

(2) The Secretary will appoint Working Group members based on nominations submitted by interested parties including but not limited to Trinity County residents, recreational and commercial fishermen, commercial and recreational boaters, power utilities, water users, forestry, grazing/ranchers, tribal interests, environmental interests, and the general public.

b. Designated Federal Officer: The Designated Federal Officer is the Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Fish and Wildlife Service.

c. Vacancy: Whenever a vacancy occurs among the Working Group members, the vacancy will be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

d. Terms of Office: Members appointed under paragraph 10a will serve 3-year terms. However, if the Working Group terminates prior to the end of the term, the terms will terminate with the Working Group.

e. Removal of Members: Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary. If a member misses without good cause three consecutive, regularly scheduled Working Group meetings, that member's membership will be terminated. Good cause will be determined by the Chair. If a membership is terminated in this manner, the affected group will forward names of potential nominees to the Secretary for selection and appointment.

11. Termination Date: The Working Group is subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2, and will take no action unless the charter filing requirements of Section 9 of the Act have been met. The Working Group is subject to biennial renewal and will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that time, the charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of the Act.

12. Subgroups: The Working Group may establish technical advisory committees as it deems necessary for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. However, such workgroups or subcommittees may not conduct business without the direction of the Working Group as a whole and must report to the full Working Group for its full consideration and deliberation.

13. Authorities: This Working Group is established pursuant to the Secretary's authority to manage the fish and wildlife resources of the Trinity River basin. These authorities include Pub. L. 84-386, the Act of August 12, 1955 (original authorization for construction of Trinity River Diversion, Central Valley Project); Pub. L. 96-335, Trinity River Stream Rectification Act; Pub. L. 98-541 and Pub. L. 104-143, Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Act of 1984; and Pub. L. 102-575, The Central Valley Improvement Act.

Gale A. Norton

Secretary of the Interior

MAR 12 2002

Date Signed

OCT 11 2002

Date Filed