



Trinity River Restoration Program

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NC-150

MEMORANDUM

TO: TMC Members and Alternates; TAMWG Members; Science Advisory Board

FROM: Doug Schleusner, Executive Director
Trinity River Restoration Program

CC: Staff

SUBJECT: Director's Report; September 22, 2006 – December 14, 2006

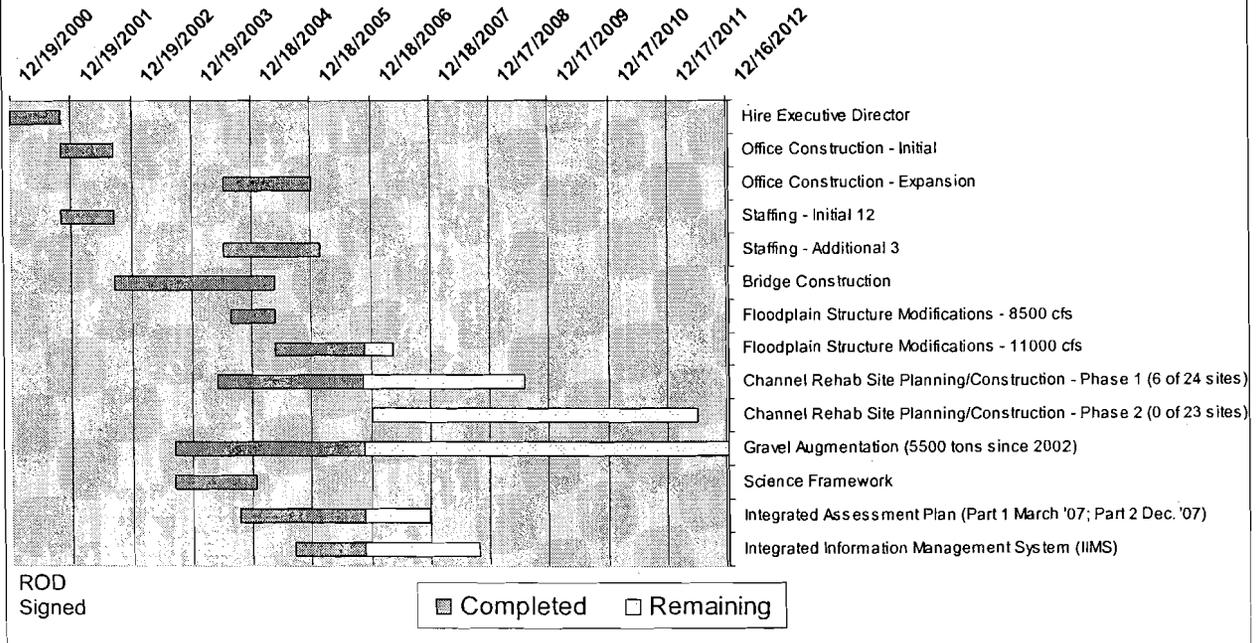
DATE: December 8, 2006

1. Summary: Primary areas of emphasis and accomplishments for the TRRP staff and partners during the past quarter have included: 1) completion of a review draft of Chapters 1-3 of the Integrated Assessment Plan (IAP), and the associated Science Advisory Board (SAB) review workshop; 2) construction of the Canyon Creek Suite of rehabilitation sites; 3) evaluation of current budget development procedures and ways to improve them for the FY2008 budget cycle; 4) continued work on FY2007 financial assistance agreements; 5) coordination with affected landowners to complete "accords, agreements, and satisfactions" necessary for floodplain structure modifications in preparation for spring 2007 dam releases; and 6) continued planning, design, and NEPA/CEQA compliance for the Indian Creek channel rehabilitation site.

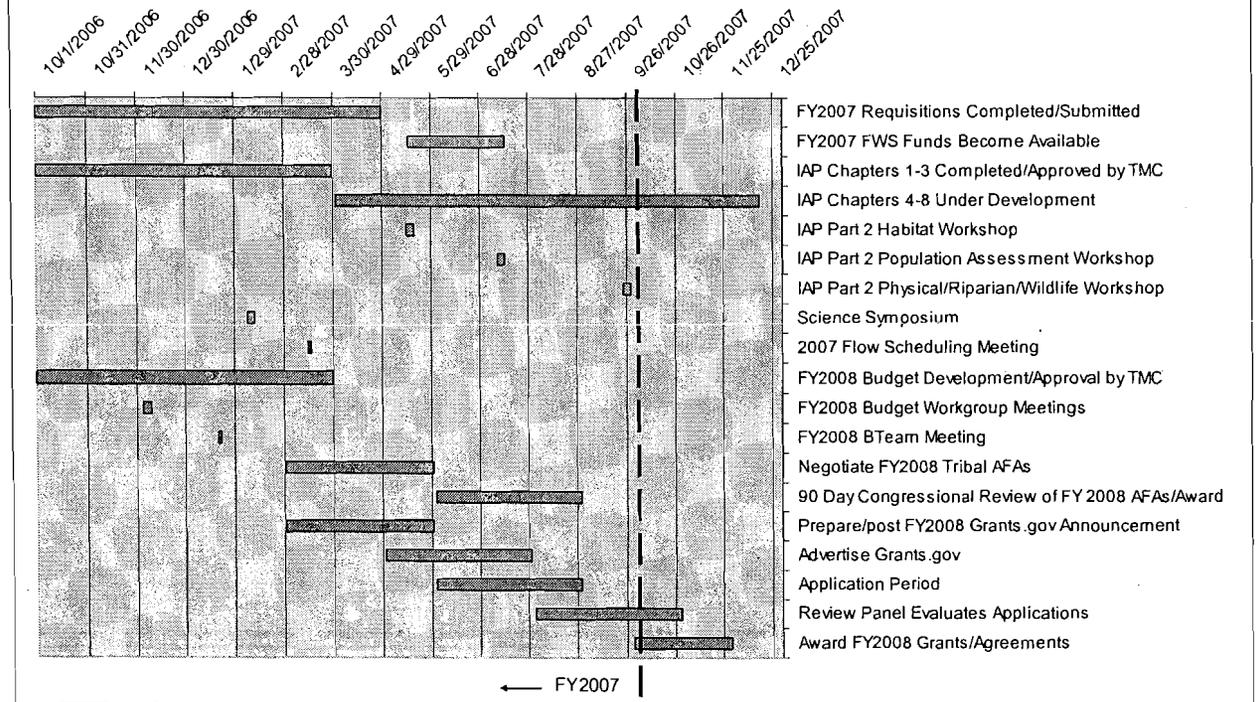
The Gantt charts presented in the previous Director's Report have been updated and expanded to help the TMC monitor the Program's progress and understand the significant work scheduling issues facing us in the coming months. They do not include every project or activity, but focus on those with milestones that have the potential to interact or conflict with other high priority tasks. They are intended to inform the TMC's discussion of workload, priorities, and schedules on December 14. More detailed charts are available upon request for many of the individual projects.

Progress of Major TRRP Components

(using December 19, 2000 ROD as starting point)

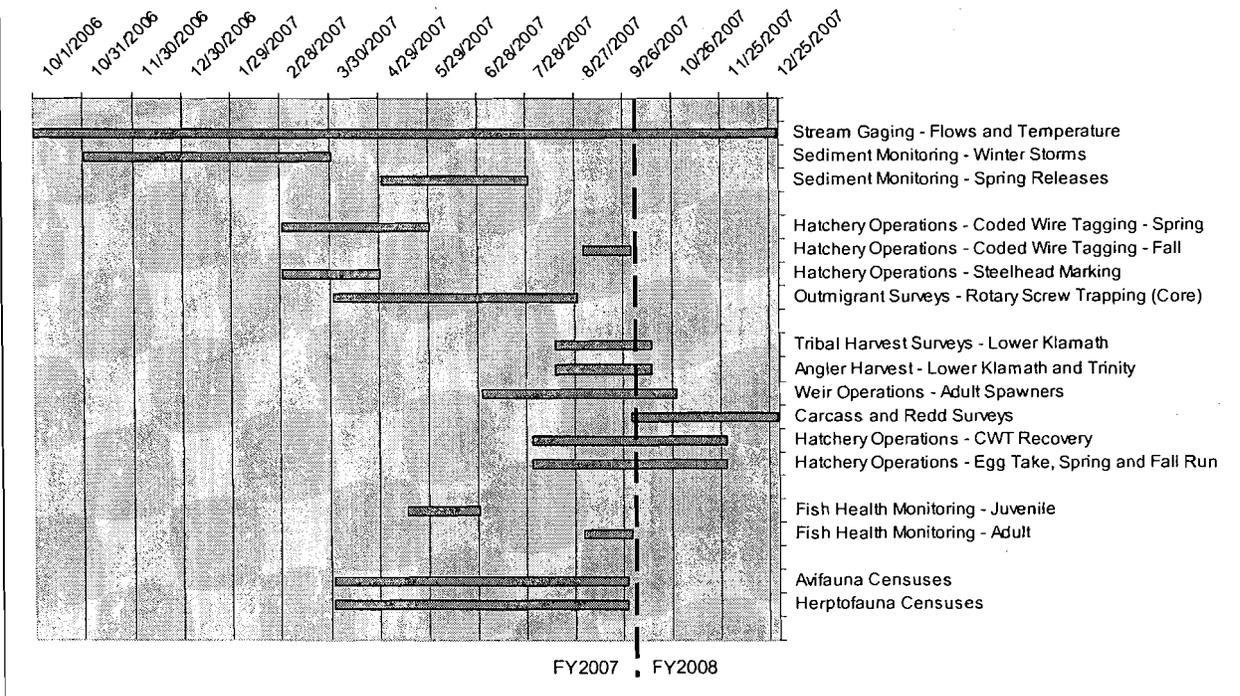


Major Program Milestones - FY2007



Approximate Timing of Core Monitoring Activities - FY2007

(Preliminary - Subject to Change)



2. General Program Administration:

- FY2007 Budget and Appropriations Status:** As of December 8, 2006, the appropriations bill for Energy and Water, along with 10 other departments, had not been signed. Congress has adjourned until January 2007 when the new members will be seated. The current Continuing Resolution (CR) has been extended through February 15. There are three likely scenarios for FY2007 appropriations in the new Congress: 1) deal with each of the remaining bills separately; 2) combine them in a large omnibus spending bill; or 3) continue to operate the government with a series of CRs through the end of FY2007. This last option would mean the TRRP would continue to operate at the lowest of three budget levels – FY2006, the House version of FY2007, or the Senate version of FY2007. The most likely net effect for the Program is that the \$9.2 million program of work approved by the TMC in September would be our operating plan for the rest of this fiscal year.
- FY2008 Budget Development Process:** On October 27 the budget process for FY2008 developed by the small subcommittee was mailed to all TMC members for comment. The main elements of this proposed process included: 1) greater use of technical workgroups; 2) identification of potentially feasible sub-units under each budget line item or task; 3) integration and prioritization of those sub-units in a “walk down” list; and 4) allocation of available funds in a sequential fashion based on those priorities. Differences of opinion, where a consensus could not be reached, would be documented. This proposal was adopted by the TMC with no strongly dissenting viewpoints on November 6. The Director distributed more detailed instructions and a list of possible sub-units on November 30.

The initial round of workgroup meetings took place the week of December 4-8. Results of preliminary staff integration will be mailed out in late December or early January, and presented to the combined IDTeam on January 19. Once the President's Budget is released in early February 2007, initial costs will be assigned to the resulting list of integrated/prioritized tasks/sub-units. A draft program of work and budget will be distributed in early March for review prior to the TAMWG and TMC meetings at the end of the month.

3. Rehabilitation Implementation Branch:

- Floodplain Structures: Approximately 48 applications for the "Potable Water and Sewage Disposal System Assistance Program" have been received, with 38 determined to be eligible. Two major structures (one house and one garage) still require some type of modification or relocation, and negotiations with the landowners are underway.
- Channel Restoration Sites: The Notice to Proceed for the Canyon Creek Rehabilitation Sites construction contract was issued in early October, and construction was completed just prior to Thanksgiving. Revegetation work will be completed in late winter and early spring. This brings the total number of rehab sites constructed to six.

Federal and State lead agencies for the Indian Creek Rehab Site EA/EIR have been meeting to develop additional alternatives and prepare a supplement to the original document. Engineering designs are being prepared by the TRRP, and construction is planned to occur in 2007.

The Design Team has met to consider initial concepts for the next round of rehab site designs. These will be further defined later this spring.

4. Modeling and Analysis Branch:

- Scientific Framework and Integrated Assessment Plan: The review draft of IAP Chapters 1-3 was distributed in early November and was the subject of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) review during the week of Nov. 27 to Dec. 1. The SAB's report was received on December 8, and their findings will be summarized by the Steering Committee at the December 12 TAMWG and December 14 TMC meetings. A proposed schedule modification that would result in Part 1 being approved at the March 2007 TMC meeting, and Part 2 (Chapters 4-9) in December 2007 will also be presented.
- Flow Scheduling: The IDTeam met on December 8 to discuss ways in which to streamline this water year's flow schedule, including the use of the Science Symposium to present data and analysis from the past year. The idea of limiting any adjustments to the ROD hydrographs to only the most compelling reasons was also discussed and will be presented at the TAMWG and TMC meetings.

- IIMS: The Integrated Information Management System (IIMS) is well underway, with a combination presentation/training session conducted by ESSA in late October. Comments were solicited from participants, and incorporated by the contractor. Presentations for the TAMWG and TMC are scheduled this week.
 - Science Symposium: The SAB strongly supported the need for this type of forum, and will be able to attend the session which is presently scheduled for February 6-9, 2007. An initial agenda has been circulated and will be updated in the near future. The location has yet to be confirmed.
5. Recent Events and Meetings (Periodically refer to website calendar for updates):
- September 25-29 – IAP Meeting #1, Keswick Office
 - September 29 - G2G Meeting with Hoopa Valley Tribe, Shasta
 - October 8 – TRRP Exhibit at Trinity County Salmon Festival, Weaverville
 - October 10-12 - IAP Writing Session, Keswick Office
 - October 11 – Watershed Work Group Meeting
 - October 18 – Fish Work Group Meeting, Weaverville
 - October 19 - TMC Budget Subcommittee (FY2008) Meeting, Arcata
 - October 21 – TRRP Exhibit at Coleman Hatchery “Return of the Salmon”
 - October 23-25 – CALFED Science Conference, Sacramento
 - November 13-17 – SALMOD Training Workshop, Arcata
 - November 14 – Physical Work Group Meeting, Weaverville
 - November 27-December 1 – IAP Review by TMC and SAB
 - December 4 - Fish/Wildlife Workgroup Meeting, Weaverville
 - December 7 (a.m.) - Watershed Workgroup Meeting, Weaverville
 - December 7 (p.m.) - IAP Steering Committee Meeting, Weaverville
 - December 8 (a.m.) - Flow Scheduling Workgroup (ID-Team) Meeting, Weaverville
 - December 8 (p.m.) - Physical/Riparian Workgroup Meeting, Weaverville
 - December 12 – TAMWG Meeting, Weaverville
 - December 14 – TMC Meeting, Weaverville
6. Upcoming Events (Periodically refer to website calendar for updates):
- December 19 - IAP Writing Group Meeting, Weaverville
 - January 10-12, 2007 - IAP Writing Group: Part 1 Workshop, Arcata
 - January 19 - B-Team/ID-Team Meeting (one-day) Weaverville
 - February 6-9 - Science Symposium, Location TBD
 - February 20 - IAP Writing Group conference call
 - March 21-22 - (tentative); TAMWG Meeting, Weaverville
 - March 28-29 - (tentative); TMC Meeting, Arcata (?)

