

**TRRP Technical Workgroup Summary  
June 2013**

Updates have been prepared by the Trinity River Restoration Program technical workgroup coordinators for the Trinity Management Council and the Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group.

**Workgroup:** Temperature and Flow

**Coordinators:** Rod Wittler, Eric Peterson

- The Temperature and Flow Workgroup is developing and evaluating alternative hydrographs for all water year types in order to more efficiently meet submission deadlines and incorporate learning.

**Workgroup:** Interdisciplinary Team

**Coordinators:** Ernie Clarke/DJ Bandrowski

- The Interdisciplinary Team holds monthly teleconferences.
- The group is primarily serving a coordination role.

**Workgroup:** Design

**Coordinator:** DJ Bandrowski

- Implementation of Lorenz Gulch and Douglas City (portion below 299 bridge) will begin in early July 2013 – community meeting to inform landowners of construction activities will take place end of June/beginning of July.
- 2014/2015 design process started in March of 2013. The project designs currently between 10-30% design stage for the following sites: Lower Junction City (Federal Design Group); Dutch Creek (State Design Group); Bucktail Re-design (Hoopa Valley Design Group).
- Value Engineering Study – External Peer Review will take place for the above 2014 30% designs the week of July 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. A public out-briefing will take place at the Trinity County Library on July 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.
- A Joint Stakeholder/Design Team meeting was held on June 4<sup>th</sup>; very few stakeholders were present with the exception of two members of the Trinity County Board of Supervisors and a few landowners.
  - Conceptual Design Alternatives and means objective metrics were presented with comparisons between three alternatives. In general the stakeholders present were pleased to be engaged, with good communication at the 10% conceptual design stage.
- Bucktail Bridge Design and Environmental Compliance is 60% complete, with final plans due by August 2013. It is anticipated that the project will move toward construction in 2014 or 2015. A public meeting was held on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013, with the Browns Mountain Road community and went very well.

**Workgroup:** Physical

**Coordinator:** Andreas Krause

- The physical work group kicked off the process to review and update the long term gravel augmentation recommendations at their June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The meeting focused on presenting current knowledge updates to set a common foundation for the process.
- The July meeting will focus on developing an action plan for updating the recommendations.

**Workgroup: Fish**

**Coordinator: Tim Hayden**

- Fish Workgroup developed consensus recommendation on prioritized fish monitoring activities to be considered as part of the Fiscal Year 2014 Trinity River Restoration Program preliminary science workplan.
- Fish Workgroup coordinator drafted a summary to be included in a package of materials for the Scientific Advisory Board review of the Fiscal Year 2014 Trinity River Restoration Program science workplan. The summary included a description of workgroup rationale and other supporting information on investigation plans submitted as part of Fiscal Year 2014 science solicitation.
- Several members of the Fish Workgroup participated in the Trinity River Restoration Program objectives workshop held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The workshop resulted in four critical action items to be completed by the Trinity River Restoration Program workgroups, including; reducing redundant objectives, identifying missing objectives, describing linkages between objectives and Program management actions, and developing quantitative metrics for each means objective.
  - Fish Workgroup worked on June 6<sup>th</sup> to address action items assigned during the Trinity River Restoration Program objectives workshop. The workgroup made significant progress to refine and reduce means objectives directly related to fish management, link means objectives to management actions and developed a plan for future development of quantitative means objectives metrics.

**Workgroup: Wildlife and Riparian**

**Coordinator: James Lee**

- A Wildlife and Riparian Workgroup Meeting was held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013; the notes are available for viewing on the Online Data Portal.
- Wildlife and Riparian Workgroup members discussed the Revegetation Compliance Strategy after California Department of Fish and Wildlife review and final version will be submitted for signatures soon.
- The United States Geological Survey submitted one deliverable – a study plan for herpetological monitoring that includes a literature review of the studies and issues relating to western pond turtles and foothill yellow-legged frogs on the Trinity River.
- Metrics for evaluating the anticipated riparian function at channel rehabilitation sites were developed to support alternative selection at the 10% design state. Thirty percent design stage metrics are currently under development.

**Workgroup: Watershed**

**Acting Coordinator: Robin Schrock**

- Please see attached “2014 proposed watershed project summaries” provided for TMC approval.

## **2014 proposed watershed projects summaries**

### **Sidney Gulch Fish Passage Improvement Project**

Northwest CA Resource Conservation and Development Council, 5C Program

Replace the existing Sidney Gulch corrugated metal culvert on Weaver Bally Loop Rd with an 12' wide x 9' deep x 60' long natural bottom precast concrete box culvert; Restore access to 1.2 miles of seasonal stream habitat for adult and juvenile steelhead and potentially Coho salmon; Implement watershed indicator targets of the Trinity River Mainstem TMDL; Implement watershed recommendations of the CA Coho Recovery Strategy.

### **Browns Creek Road Sediment Implementation Projects**

Northwest CA Resource Conservation & Development Council

Utilize previously assembled road sediment inventory data to develop, rank, and implement projects that will reduce road-related sediment input to Browns Creek. Implement road upgrade (stormproofing) projects on up to 50 sites in the Browns Creek Watershed that have been previously identified as major sources of sediment. Projects would include installing rolling dips, culverts, hardening road surfaces, and more.

### **West Weaver Creek – Channel and Floodplain Rehabilitation Implementation**

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD)

This project will implement a comprehensive channel and floodplain rehabilitation project in a severely degraded reach of West Weaver Creek, downstream of Highway 299.

### **East Weaver Creek Dam Removal Project**

Northwest CA Resource Conservation & Development Council, 5 Counties Program

Develop a feasibility study to remove a 20' tall dam on East Weaver Creek, install a new intake and pipeline to open 2.5 miles of Coho habitat in the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area while maintaining reliable drinking water to Weaverville, Trinity County.

### **Lower Sidney Gulch Urban Stream Restoration- Phase 2 Final Design & Implementation**

Northwest CA Resource Conservation & Development Council, 5C Program

Reduce sediment delivery from Sidney Gulch and create complex instream habitat in one of the most productive Coho streams in the Weaver basin. ~11,000 yd<sup>3</sup> are proposed to be excavated. This project would also increase flood conveyance and significantly improve riparian conditions. The proposed design would facilitate a greater meander, add side channel habitat, add large wood, and remove invasive species.

### **Weaver Creek Road Sediment Assessment**

Northwest CA Resource Conservation & Development Council

Inventory of up to 107 miles of roads to identify major sources of road related sediment to Weaver Creek. Outreach to private landowners to perform inventories and conduct educational workshop(s). Utilize sediment inventory data to develop implementation projects.

**East Branch East Weaver Creek Migration Barrier Removal Feasibility and Design Project**  
 Northwest California Resource Conservation & Development Council

The objectives of the proposed project are to: (1) Assess the benefits to aquatic species, specifically Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts (SONCC) Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Upper Klamath-Trinity Rivers Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and Klamath Mountains Province Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), and their habitat by removing the impassable culvert on East Branch East Weaver Creek at East Weaver Creek Road and (2) Design a replacement crossing that will allow safe travel along the county road, passage of all aquatic species during all life history stages and convey the 100-year storm flow estimated at 1,175 cfs including bedload and debris associated with the upstream landslide.

**2014 Watershed Project Proposals**

|   |   |      |           |           |   |
|---|---|------|-----------|-----------|---|
| Sidney Gulch Fish Passage                               | i | 5C's | \$146,937 | \$49,326  | 1 |
| Browns Crk Rd Improveme                                 | i | 5C's | \$284,580 | \$47,373  | 2 |
| West Weaver Creek                                       | i | RCD  | \$185,000 | \$537,500 | 3 |
| East Weaver Creek Dam Re                                | i | 5C's | \$40,565  | \$44,378  | 3 |
| Lower Sidney Gulch Urban Stream                         |   |      |           |           |   |
| Restoration- Phase 2                                    | i | 5C's | \$451,502 | \$52,047  | 4 |
| Weaver Crk Rd Inventory                                 | p | 5C's | \$63,044  | \$12,144  | 5 |
| East Branch/East Weaver Creek Migration Barrier Removal | p | 5C's | \$128,192 |           | 6 |
| Weaver Bally Resource Inv                               | p | RCD  | \$40,000  | \$10,000  | 7 |

**Total** **\$1,339,820**

i = implementation/construction, p = design/planning.

Projects Ranked from most favorable = #1, Second = #2, etc, to least favorable.

The workgroup proposes funding the four highest ranked projects.

The nature of the Brown's Creek project allows for scaling to adjust to budget.

An alternative was developed in the event the matching funds for WWC are not realized.

**Preferred WG alternative**

**Alternative 1:** Fund Projects 1, 2, and both #3's      Total      \$657,082

**If matching funds for WWC are not available, implement alternative 2**

**Alternative 2:** Fund Projects 1, 2, and 3 (EWC) and 5      Total      \$494,561