



Trinity River Restoration Program

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OCT 18 2013

Ms. Elizabeth Hadley
Chairman, Trinity River Adaptive Management Working Group
City of Redding Electric Utility
777 Cypress Avenue
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: Response to Your Letter of September 12, 2013

Dear Chairman Hadley: *Elizabeth*

Thank you for your letter summarizing the proceedings of the September 12, 2013, Trinity River Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG) meeting and offering three recommendations. Each recommendation is restated below, followed by our response.

1. *The TAMWG recommends that the Trinity Management Council (TMC) send a letter to the Fish and Wildlife Service requesting that TAMWG members be reimbursed for their travel to TAMWG meetings.*

I was recently informed by Designated Federal Official Joe Polos that this matter has been resolved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and travel reimbursement will resume. Thus, no letter is necessary. The TMC recognizes that the travel restrictions imposed by the Federal budget sequestration have imposed a hardship on some TAMWG members, a consequence we regret. We appreciate TAMWG members' willingness to meet despite the inconvenience.

2. *The TAMWG recommends that the fiscal year 2014 budget allocations conform to an approximate 50-30-20 split between Rehabilitation Implementation, Science, and Program Administration, respectively.*

During the September 18, 2013, TMC meeting, we discussed the budget at great length. Acknowledging that a fiscal year 2014 budget has not been passed and a continuing resolution inclusive of further sequestration reductions was then likely, the budget proposal presented by Program staff was considered provisional. A motion was passed to accept the provisional budget, which currently allocates funding in a 46-35-19 split, closely corresponding to the TAMWG recommendation.

However, three activities formerly under Rehabilitation Implementation were recently shifted to the Science portion of the Program. Findings from these activities inform Rehabilitation Implementation actions, including gravel augmentation and riparian assessments, and arguably could be in either category.

Trinity Management Council

Brian Person, Chair, Bureau of Reclamation – Ann Garrett, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration-Fisheries
Sharon Heywood, USDA Forest Service - Mike Orcutt, Hoopa Valley Tribe - Dave Hillemeier, Yurok Tribe –
Curtis Milliron, California Department of Fish and Wildlife - Judy Pflueger, Trinity County
Joe Polos, US Fish & Wildlife Service – Robin Schrock, TRRP Executive Director

Due to integration of the results from these activities into analyses and syntheses that inform the entire Program, and because sponsors of those activities now submit annual work plans subjected to external peer review, these activities were moved to the Science budget. For context, although we are not advocating doing so, if these three activities were returned to the Rehabilitation Implementation part of the budget, the distribution would be 50:31:19.

3. *The TAMWG reaffirms its support for the implementation of a Decision Support System as suggested by the Science Advisory Board in their September 4, 2013, letter.*

During the aforementioned meeting, the TMC again discussed development and implementation of the Decision Support System (DSS) after hearing from two Science Advisory Board members strongly advocating for its adoption. It was reaffirmed that the most important step toward a full DSS is development of a functioning fish production model. The provisional budget recommended in the motion described above includes \$177,674 to fund the first of two phases to develop the model.

Again, thank you for your letter. We greatly appreciate the guidance and insights provided by the TAMWG.

Sincerely,



Brian Person
Chairman, Trinity Management Council

cc: Mr. Joe Polos
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