

Technical Workgroup Summary May/June 2016

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: Flow

Coordinator: Andreas Krause/Robert Stewart

- The Flow Workgroup work group developed a consensus flow release schedule for Water Year 2016, a wet water year. The recommended releases include a double high flow peak as an adaptive management flow experiment to learn more about sediment transport dynamics and improve to effectiveness of high flow releases. The recommended flow schedule was presented to the Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group (TAMWG) and Trinity Management Council (TMC) in March, and was adopted by the TMC with minor revisions. This is the first time a double high flow peak has been implemented.
- The Flow workgroup has begun a process to 1) revise the flow scheduling process to incorporate a Decision Support System (DSS); 2) identify and develop reports synthesizing the effects of the ROD flow releases to date; and 3) propose adaptive management flow experiments for Water Year 2017 to help answer priority uncertainties.

Workgroup: Fish

Coordinator: Todd Buxton

- The Fish Workgroup (FWG) met in Weaverville on March 15 and in Arcata on April 19, 2016.
- In the March 15th meeting:
 - James Lee (Hoopa Valley Tribe, HVT) gave a presentation on the influence of marine derived nutrients from salmon carcasses on various components of river ecosystems, including riparian tree growth, macroinvertebrate populations, and terrestrial scavengers. The FWG agreed to investigate whether salmon carcasses from Trinity River Hatchery (TRH) can be seeded in floodplain areas to benefit the river ecosystem.
 - George Kautsky and Eric Logan (HVT) explained calculations for reconstructing wild Fall Chinook cohorts for the Trinity River. The cohort model was funded in 2012 and remains in draft form.
 - Bill Pinnix (Fish and Wildlife Service, FWS), Kyle De Juilio (Yurok Tribe, YT), and Joe Polos (FWS) gave updates on synthesis reporting of fry outmigrant populations, juvenile rearing habitat, and Chinook production metrics, respectively.
- At the April 19th meeting:
 - Nate Harris (YT) presented the method used to estimate effects of spring flow releases on outmigrant timing, which is a temperature-based prediction. Bill Pinnix (FWS) shared a presentation on fish production estimates made with catch data at the Willow Creek screw traps that he had previously given at an American Fisheries Society conference.
 - Shane Quinn (YT) presented information on disease concerns associated with using carcasses from TRH for enhancing marine nutrients in riparian areas. Quinn reported the

Workgroup: Design

(Acting) Coordinator: Brandt Gutermuth

- The Design Team Workgroup last met on April 25, 2016 in Weaverville.
- At that meeting, the work group heard presentations on and reviewed the five 2017 work plan effectiveness monitoring proposals (two Biological and three Physical).
- The following two effectiveness monitoring criterion were considered:
 1. Does the proposed project inform channel rehabilitation project design? (i.e., Will it change the way we design?)
 2. Is the information timely?
- A summary of the Design Team's insight and ranking concerning the 2017 effectiveness monitoring proposals was relayed to the Trinity Management Council and Scientific Advisory Board for use in the 2017 budget review process

Workgroup: Watershed

Coordinator: Sean Ledwin

- The Watershed Workgroup met and scored the Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) applications, and is recommending that the top five proposals be funded in FY16.
 1. Large Woody Debris Helicopter loading
 2. Salt Creek Confluence Rehabilitation
 3. Sidney Gulch - USFS compound Rehabilitation
 4. Valdor Road Sediment Reduction
 5. Oregon Street Sediment Reduction

