# **Trinity River Watershed Council**

March 14, 2023 at 10:00am – 12:00pm

TCRCD Conference Room, #30 Horseshoe Lane, Weaverville

#### Our Mission:

To protect, enhance, restore and revitalize the watershed through collaborative efforts that leverage external resources, work toward common goals, educate and engage community stakeholders, address natural resource issues, and support healthy ecosystems for future generations.

### Agenda

- 10:00-10:10 Welcome and Introductions
- 10:10-10:15 Land Acknowledgement and Blessing from Sonny Hayward with the Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation
- **10:15-10:45** Guest Speaker Gabrielle Bohlman presenting on the Klamath Meadows Partnership with Josh Smith of The Watershed Research and Training Center
- 10:45-11:00 Grant Updates
- 11:00-11:55 Partner Updates

a. USFS – Shasta Trinity National Forest	I. Tsnungwe Tribe
<b>b.</b> USFS- Six Rivers National Forest	<b>m</b> . Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation
c. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	n. Trinity County Resource Conservation District
<ul> <li>d. California Department of Fish and Wildlife</li> <li>(CDFW)</li> </ul>	o. The Watershed Research and Training Center
e. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS	<ul> <li>p. 5 Counties Salmonid Conservation Program/</li> <li>S) Northwest California Resource Conservation &amp; Development Council</li> </ul>
f. Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP)/ Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)	q. Trinity County Fish and Game Commission
g. Trinity County	r. Trinity County Agricultural Alliance
<b>h</b> . The Nature Conservancy	<ul> <li>Safe Alternatives for our Forest Environment (SAFE)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>i. North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB)</li> </ul>	t. Sierra Pacific Industries
j. Hoopa Tribal Fisheries	u. Flowra
k. Yurok Tribal Fisheries	v. New Attendees

11:55-12:00 Close

### Next Meeting is June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 10am-12pm

#### **Virtual Meeting Information** Zoom link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89707228772?pwd=WUo1VW5hS2x0UC85ODE4dFViNEFYUT09</u> Meeting ID: **897 0722 8772** Passcode: **96093** +166994449171,,89707228772#,,,,\*96093# US +16699009128,,89707228772#,,,,\*96093# US (San Jose)

### **Meeting Notes**

#### Attendance

### In Person (11):

Annyssa Interrante - Trinity County Resource Conservation District Charlie Curtin - Trinity County Resource Conservation District Sonny Hayward – Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation Cindy Childress – Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation Tracy Foster-Olstad – Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation Josh Smith – Watershed Research and Training Center Cindy Buxton – Watershed Research and Training Center Bridger Cohan - Watershed Research and Training Center Chris Losi – Flowra Mike Dixon – Trinity River Restoration Program / Bureau of Reclamation Kyle DeJulio – Yurok Tribal Fisheries

### Online (22):

Gabrielle Bohlman – Klamath Meadows Partnership, USFS Region 5 Ecology AJ Donnell – United States Forest Service, Six Rivers National Forest Eric Wiseman – United States Forest Service, Shasta Trinity National Forest Galen Anderson – United States Forest Service, Shasta Trinity National Forest Tiffany Perez – Natural Resources Conservation Service Oliver Rogers – Trinity River Restoration Program Heidi Carpenter Harris – Trinity County Liam Gogan – Trinity County Patrick Flynn – Trinity County David Colbeck – Trinity County Veronica Yates – Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries Sandra Perez – Yurok Tribal Fisheries Kelly Sheen – Trinity County Resource Conservation District Amelia Fleitz – Trinity County Resource Conservation District Tracy McFaddin – Watershed Research and Training Center Megan Killeen - Watershed Research and Training Center Nathan McCanne – Trinity County Fish and Game Commission Karla Avila – Trinity County Agricultural Alliance Keith Greenwood – Sierra Pacific Industries Margo Moorehouse – Pacific Watershed Associates Justin Garwood **Gregory Pasternak** 

Total Attendance: 33 people

**Guest Speaker Topic:** Klamath Meadows Partnership with Gabrielle Bohlman, United States Forest Service Region 5 Ecology, and Josh Smith and Cindy Buxton with the Watershed Research and Training Center

- Introduction
  - Region 5 Ecology includes Klamath, Shasta-Trinity, Six Rivers, Mendocino National Forests
    - Program priorities include ecological restoration, climate change adaptation, inventory, and monitoring
- KMP Introduction
  - KMP began in Spring of 2020, born out of a desire to coordinate and accelerate meadow restoration and bring attention and resources to montane meadows in NW California
  - During Gabrielle's work inventorying meadows for post fire restoration, it became apparent that there was a lack of resources available for meadow restoration in NW California
  - Betsy Stapleton from Scott River Watershed Council and Pruna Greenberg were very eager to start a partnership for meadows in NW California
  - Looking to bring more resources and attention to meadow work in NW California
  - Partnership range includes mountains in Klamath Mountains, southern Cascades Range, and North Coast Ranges
  - Now have 20 volunteer agencies, non-profits, and scientists
    - Core Team includes; Scott River Watershed Council, Salmon River Restoration Council, The Watershed Research and Training Center, Stillwater Sciences, USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station and Ecology Program, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Vision
  - Promote healthy and resilient meadow networks in NW California, that support biodiversity, human livelihoods, and meaningful collaboration among a network of communities, government agencies, tribes, and scientists
  - Hope to achieve this by communicating the importance of restoration of meadows in our region for the meadows, health of the landscape, and resilience to fires and climate change
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Fostering collaborations to increase the pace and scale of restoration work
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Coordinate efforts to inventory meadows and prioritize restoration needs
  - Information sharing on relevant funding opportunities, and advocating for the expansion of funding opportunities to include our geographic area
  - Building off knowledge of resources to identify and develop assessment protocols and restoration methods, strategies that are appropriate for the unique and diverse meadows throughout NW California
  - Offering a venue for technical support and advice, and to bounce ideas and questions off of the larger group
- Goals
  - In Draft Strategic Plan, compiled by National Forest Foundation Fellow by interviewing members of the partnership, gathering information on short/medium/long term goals
  - o Short Term Goals
    - Hiring long term coordinator
    - Pursue meadows inventory map
    - Organize in person strategic vision meeting
  - o Medium Term Goals

- Create baseline meadow inventory map with field validation
- Create a workplan to classify and/or prioritize meadows for restoration
- Setting goals for restoration projects
- Organize annual field trips/in-person meetings
- 1 funded landscape restoration projects
- o Long Term Goals
  - Create a prioritization model for meadow restoration to inform managers where to move forward and commit resources
  - Have large scale restoration projects underway
  - Having X number of work projects every year with a KMP work party
  - Identify/Establish acreage goal in KMP boundaries
  - Increase membership in the KMP
- Sierra Meadows Partnership
  - A sister/example organization, well established with resources and opportunities for meadow restoration in the Sierras
  - Goal of restoring 30k acres of meadows by 2030, and mapping with partners
  - Have 5 working groups that focus on permitting, prioritization, design, research, and outreach
     Each with own goals and deliverables
  - o Recently awarded a block grant from Wildlife Conservation Board
    - Awarding 20 million in grants for groups working in Sierras and southern Cascades
  - KMP will likely have different goals, but we can learn, engage, and share resources with the SMP to achieve the overall goals of increasing the pace and scale of meadow restoration in California
- Current Grant Proposal
  - Submitted to Wildlife Conservation Board
  - KMP has been all volunteers, and there are limits of that
  - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation fellow, Annie
    - Drafted the Strategic Plan
    - Submitted a pre-proposal to the Wildlife Conservation Board for funds for a coordinator position for the KMP
    - WCB asked for a full proposal, and Cindy completed February 2, 2023
    - Waiting for response
  - WCB Proposal had 3 parts
    - Full time coordinator position
      - Take strategic plant from draft to final form
      - Coordinate with 20+ organizations
      - Host meetings
      - Developing governance
      - Develop short/medium/long term goals
    - General LiDAR based inventory of current meadows and developing protocols
      - Huge area of Northern California with a variety of ecosystems, meadows, and unique features of the Klamath
      - Using a lot of existing protocols and guidance for the region
      - Seeking funding for guidance and classification systems, identification of local impacts to the meadows, and recommended restoration guidance for ecological

#### **Questions?**

#### Contact Annyssa Interrante at 530 623 6004 X 209 or email at ainterrante@tcrcd.net

needs

- Seeking to reach the level of the Sierra Meadows Partnership
- Working with Karen Pope from USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station, and her Lost Meadows Model to identify historic meadow locations, with field verification
- Piloting with Klamath area, then hoping to extend across KMP
- Build capacity, collaboration, and support
  - Help develop workshops to share restoration techniques, prevention of impacts, identification of community and ecological needs
  - Set up the Strategic Plan
  - Hire a dedicated person to oversee the KMP and get it off the ground
- Map in presentation exhibits the Lost Meadow Model, the National Wetland Inventory Dataset, and the Justin Garwood's CDFW dataset of consistently wet meadows checked by aerial photos.
  - Shows variations in current meadow modeling approaches
- KMP's partnership with the WRTC has been instrumental and appreciated for the support and capacity to write the grant proposal.
  - It has accelerated the program by leaps and bounds
- Scott River Watershed Council is implementing a large meadow restoration project this summer
  - Kangaroo Lake area over Scott Mountain
    - Rock-Fence creek?
  - Reach out to the WRTC for more information on participating

Notes from the chat:

• Gabrielle Bohlman: For more info on KMP visit our website at www.klamathmeadows.org or reach out to <a href="mailto:gabrielle.bohlman@usda.gov">gabrielle.bohlman@usda.gov</a>

### Questions:

- Who is housing the LiDAR data?
  - Publicly available information, computer processing programs take a lot of power, but local organizations have access to it, including the WRTC, TCRCD, TRRP, Yurok Tribe and others. Not 100% coverage for this area though. Hoping to have all of Trinity County covered by the end of Summer 2023.
    - Great to know that there are local resources, currently using the CalPoly HSU system resources for LiDAR
- Meadows have natural expansion and contraction, some is anthropogenic, some by drought. How are you considering it in your proposal and seeing those effects on the perimeters of these meadows?
  - Most of the time the meadows for restoration have obvious signs of incision, dewatering of streams, with young conifer encroachment into the area. Restoration technique is to take out the conifers and use them to "plug up" the incision to "heal the wound"
    - Are the incisions man-caused or natural?
  - Usually they are road related, overgrazing, and a larger variety of issues that can cause it.
     Most often caused by failures of ill-designed roads and culverts. Karen Pope's Lost Meadow

model also works to look higher up in the watershed to identify the source of the problem, to prevent only short-term success because of problems higher up in the watershed. The model looks to assess contributing factors across the landscape/watershed scale. Roads are most often the highest contributor. Many USFS roads traverse the watersheds, both active and decommissioned, and many have legacy impacts on the hydrology that are visible by LiDAR to observe flow paths of water.

- Projects in the McCloud area have been successful, some have gotten side-tracked. If you focus on the hydrology and look to restore natural processes, it can take care of itself, outside of fire exclusion areas etc.
- Drought and fire exclusion have been noted in a lot of those areas as well.
- As you are in the early process of identification of the meadows, what are the limits of anadromy
  to Pacific Lamprey? I've suggested studies in the Trinity Wilderness to see upper tributary and
  meadow distributions. Could you include a lamprey survey in your middle to long term goals that
  would include electro-fishers with ticklers that could get the ammocoetes out the mud to check for
  presence? Or look for nitrogen in trees to check for marine derived nutrients in any of the conifer
  encroachment or other trees? Lamprey are listed as a species of concern with USFWS, but are not
  state listed, but they may in the future. An accurate map of the upper level of anadromy would be
  incredibly useful for information, and funding from federal sources.
  - Surveys are not included in the current efforts, but can be included in the future as it develops. Current funding is minimal.
    - In a long-term proposal, it could increase interest and opportunities in the future. As you are up there and exploring meadows, it would be great to add that survey component.
- How do you determine meadow footprints in remote sensing data?
  - The map on the screen only showed 3 of the available datasets, there are some areas where they are functioning and can accurately show meadows, but there are also lots of areas where none of them work right. We are going to start this process in the Upper Trinity Headwaters project with the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart grant we received, were hoping the KMP can take it to the next level and make them more accurate. The SMP has inventoried wetlands that have been physically surveyed for years, were trying to use modeling data to start working on accurate inventories. Right now, it's pretty poor.
    - Are you looking to develop your own methodology? Does it come from raw LiDAR data?
  - Each model is different, but were using LiDAR as much as possible. The Pacific Research Station with Karen Pope and Adam Cummings developed the Lost Meadow Model, and the Process-based that is another tool. We're trying to refine them and make them better.
     Were also working with TerrainWorks that have a model from Washington State.

Grant Updates: Tracy McFaddin, Watershed Research and Training Center

- USFWS Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Klamath Grant Opportunity
  - Recipients include Yurok Tribe
  - Available for round 2, deadline for preproposal is April 14<sup>th</sup>
- Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart Grant
  - Current recipients include TCRCD and WRTC
  - Best sources of support for the Watershed Council over the past few years
- Wildlife Conservation Board
  - Continuously open for pre-proposals, with technical guidance from the staff
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - $\circ$  Continuously open for pre-proposals, with technical guidance from the staff

Notes from the chat:

• Tracy McFadin: Thanks everyone, happy to answer questions. Tracy McFadin, Grant Writer/ Admin Support tracy@thewatershedcenter.com, 530-739-5643

Comments:

- Caltrans Mitigation Funding
  - Rolling application process, new program in Trinity County
  - Being run through the state water board, Caltrans mitigation bank
  - Projects can be related to Caltrans right-of-ways, but also applied to private property and county right-of-way
  - South Fork and Trinity River watersheds have separate funds
- The Nor Rel Muk Wintu have tribal monitors on USFS and BLM grounds and many grants require monitoring
  - Consider writing an MOU with the tribes to perform archaeological monitoring on projects
  - Monitoring can hold up a project, it's nice to have the funds set aside, instead of hashing it out mid-project
- For the county working on USFS property, anything found belongs to the federal government, there may be conflicts with the tribal nations, they are working on developing MOUs
  - Nor Rel Muk Wintu acknowledges that items found are the property of the property owner, but ask that it be recorded, protected, and not looted or sold

### Partner Updates

- United States Forest Service Shasta Trinity National Forest
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Some projects are on hold because of snow and rain
  - Burning in the Weaverville Community Forest, Pettijohn, and Gammel out by Wildwood
  - Planning the end of August Phase 2, done by later this spring
  - Looking at Big Ranch by Big Bar/Corral Bottom and Hyampom
  - Declaration of Priority Landscape by the USFS has resulting in funding for disaster relief, going to be doing a lot of roadwork and erosion control soon
  - $\circ \quad \text{Hiring for another hydrologist}$
  - $\circ$   $\;$  New Employee Orientation this week
  - Storm Patrol in January didn't look too bad, going out again soon
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Crossing failure out on Hayfork Divide and some overtops, nothing serious yet
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Incoming atmospheric river conditions could make things worse
  - o Coffee Creek was roasted in the River Complex Fire, hoping it holds together
    - Logging in McFarland, going to be shut down for wet weather and snow
- United States Forest Service Six Rivers National Forest
  - Same conditions with atmospheric river, low elevation snow and rain on snow
    - Recent burn scar on Lightning Complex isn't showing any issues yet
    - Storm Patrol access is limited with downed trees
    - Many watersheds and creek look good so far post fire
  - National Priority Landscapes Six Rivers also declared
    - Implementing fuels reductions projects with the money
      - "Plantation Thin" project NEPA cleared as of 2013 (happy to finally receive fuels reduction project funding)
      - Looking to do fuels reduction treatments this summer
    - 5 years of funding, working on planning
    - Looking to treat over 10k acres of roadside fuels reduction
      - Roadside hazards, roadside fuels, and adjacent to private lands
  - o Working on the Trinity, in Orleans, and Mad River district
  - o Limited capacity, working on hiring
  - Collaborating with Hoopa Tribe for a restoration project on Peter Creek
    - Working on planning documents
    - Looking at historic restoration sites with gabion walls that are restricting fish passage
    - Working on site designs this summer
    - Looking for grant to implement in fiscal year 24
  - Working with local tribe on Madden Creek (also known as Old Campbell Creek) outside Willow Creek
    - Big Coho salmon spawning stream, and fall Chinook salmon
    - Working on in-stream restoration
    - May be reaching out to the Yurok tribe to increase capacity
  - o Contacted by the State of California for a bullfrog eradication project on the South

Fork Trinity

- Six River USFS has a programmatic Environmental Assessment that covers bull frog eradication
- But still going to work with partners to determine best methodology
- Concerns if the population originates further upstream, that eradication efforts are futile

### Questions:

- What is your methodology for bull frog eradication?
  - We don't have a bull frog eradication plan yet, it is being led by the State, and currently working with the tribe. Working currently on inventory.
- The Nor Rel Muk Wintu would like to be informed of proposed methods, and are not in favor of pesticide use
  - Six Rivers doesn't support the use of pesticides, it would probably be mechanical removal
  - The Bureau of Land Management not present
  - California Department of Fish and Wildlife
    - Noted that Andy Hill is no longer with the CDFW and they are actively hiring
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service
    - Recently submitted 18 projects, 5 have been selected for current funding sources
    - $\circ$   $\;$  Awarded a Joint Chiefs Project with Six Rivers National Forest
      - Will provide funding up until 2025
      - Focused on fuels reduction and fire recovery projects on private land
    - o Regarding Klamath Meadows Partnership
      - NRCS does provide assistance with Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs)
      - Modoc County also does many BDAs
      - Working to get more on private lands

### Notes from the chat:

- Tiffany Perez- NRCS: tiffany.perez@usda.gov for any questions about the approved Joint Chiefs Proposal (collaboration with Six Rivers NF) and receiving NRCS funding to install Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs) on private land.
  - Trinity River Restoration Program and Bureau of Reclamation
    - Mirroring project in Six Rivers done a few years back with the USFS and BLM, working on programmatic environmental assessment for watershed restoration actions
      - If funded by BOR on private or public land, and any projects on public land regardless of funding source are eligible
      - Spectrum of project types are being analyzed
      - Intent to cover any project outside of the Six Rivers boundary
      - NRCS brings federal funding into private land, and it would not be covered by this programmatic
        - o Going to see about including NRCS if not too late
      - Working on early chapters of admin draft

- Hoping to publish by August
- Working to get NEPA done by the end of this calendar year
- NFWF grant, request for proposals
  - Invited 4 applicants for full proposals
  - Due March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023
  - Award notifications in May 2023 for summer implementation
  - Another Request for Proposals near the end of this calendar year
- o Oregon Gulch project underway
  - Upstream of the confluence of Oregon Gulch and Trinity River
  - Large floodplain restoration project
  - Hit some logistical hurdles with pervasive site flooding
    - Rate of production has slowed
  - Hoping to complete the project, excluding revegetation component by the end of this calendar year
  - Yurok tribe has contributed additional funding that has helped substantially
- Winter flow variability project
  - 1 month into
  - Working to emulate natural river processes
  - Wet floodplains to increase bug populations and forage for fish
  - Release is at 700 cubic feet per second currently, higher than 300cfs seen this time of year in the past, but lower than natural occurring
  - Rising to spring peak in Mid-April
- o Trinity Lake Reservoir
  - At 1.5 million acre feet is considered a "wet year"
  - Looking good for water this year
- Trinity County
  - Trinity County Department of Transportation
    - Canyon Creek slide is still active and is being worked on by contractors
      - Drilling in 40ft support rods horizontally into rock (approximately 50)
      - o 600 9ft rods for high tension rock mesh
      - Slowed due to weather conditions
      - Road is currently open with temporary rock barrier that is being monitored
    - We are working on public information
      - o Any complaints can be submitted via the website
      - New Phone system
        - Passive, can call in and receive updates about roads and closures
          - Canyon Creek is currently the only one with updates
    - Responding to Disaster Declaration from December 2022 storms
      - o Current FEMA meeting happening
      - Expect a new disaster declaration from current storms
      - Lots of clean-up, storm and fire damage from 2016.

- Regional Transportation Plan was passed
  - No negative declarations
  - Some in stream work
- Working on bridges
  - Lorenz Gulch, Sydney Gulch, East Fork of Hayfork Creek, Corral Bottom,
- Current storm
  - Problems everywhere, lots of reports
  - Please reach out with information
- Garrett Road, Hyampom
  - Not a county road
  - Looking into potential to address issue
  - Seeking cooperation with other groups applying for Caltrans Mitigation funding
- General Plan Update
  - o In Progress
- Good Neighbor Agreement
  - Continual agreement between DOT and the USFS
  - Allows funding to be released to capture the county's capacity, namely engineering and environmental to assist with projects on county roads on USFS land or in USFS land
  - Looking to get final draft done this week
  - o Master Agreement is trying to get completed ASAP
    - Specific Project Agreements
      - USFS and TCDOT will have their list of priorities
      - Seeking input from council partners for priority projects
- Caltrans Bridge Replacements
  - Currently in planning, and will be open for public comment
    - Garden Gulch on 299
    - Sydney Gulch on 299
    - West Weaver on 299
      - TCRCD had a restoration site at West Weaver and could assist in culvert design, plans were submitted to Caltrans
    - East Weaver on Highway 3
- Trinity County Planning Department
  - Administration of the Service Mining and Reclamation Act Permitting and Mining Inspections
    - Aggregate mining
    - Eagle Rock, Man Mine in Hayfork, Mercer-Fraiser gravel skimming on the Van Duzen River
    - o Inspections starting March-July, annual basis
    - Ongoing compliance for reclamation plans

- Oversight of CDFW permitting
- o 2<sup>nd</sup> year that TC has taken on the inspections
- Man Mine, and Blue Rock #1 and #2 aggregate quarries have updated Industrial General Permits with the Water Board for the Stormwater Protection Pollution Plan for runover management
  - Man Mine crosses Duncan Gulch and is seeking a 1600 permit or Legacy Operation Permit
- 5 active mines in the county; 1 gold mine up Canyon Creek (2 oz gold a year, short timeframe)
- Working with TRRP on Oregon Gulch for floodplain permitting
- Administration of the National Flood Insurance Program
  - Floodplain permitting and mapping updates
  - Updating of the Flood Insurance map for tributaries for the past few years

### Comment:

• There is a mining operation off the highway right after the summit of Oregon Mountain that is digging towards the highway, and due to the natural shifting of Oregon Mountain, could be putting people at risk.

#### Question:

- Status of encroachment on Oregon Gulch?
  - CDFW is moving forward with compliance with Eagle Rock
    - Allowing the addition of wood chips
    - Pursuing Civil Code 1600, need to produce a mitigation plan, will still need to be reviewed and approved
      - Requested CDFW to forward the plan to the TRWC for review and input
        - Potential to improve Sky Ranch Ranch Road culvert for fish passage
      - Still in process as of February 2023
  - Activity is not within the mining footprint
  - Site is a known village site area
    - Nor Rel Muk Wintu would like to be kept in the loop
- The Natural Conservancy not present
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board not present
- Hoopa Tribal Fisheries
  - A couple restoration projects on the reservation
    - Cedar Creek project
    - Working on a monitoring protocol for older restoration projects without baseline data
    - Removing invasive species
  - o Invasive Species
    - Collaborating for Trinity County Working Weeds Group
      - Reach out to Veronica Yates for more information

#### **Questions?**

Contact Annyssa Interrante at 530 623 6004 X 209 or email at ainterrante@tcrcd.net

- Adopt-A-Plot
  - At Bucktail river access
  - Opportunity for community members to adopt a plot and remove invasive species on their own time
  - In the fall there will be a revegetation planting
- Yurok Tribal Fisheries
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Monitoring and Science
    - Installing screw traps in Willow Creek to monitor out migrations of juvenile Chinook salmon to create abundance estimates
    - Implementing a carcass supplementation project out on Grass Valley creek by taking fish from the hatchery and distributing them out on the landscape
      - Hoping for future expansion
      - Requirement for the hatchery's genetic management of Coho salmon to replace broodstock from offsite
    - Developing offsite release strategy for Coho Salmon to reproduce in streams where they have been extirpated
      - Hoping to start in the fall
    - Implementing a temperature monitoring project this summer/fall/winter to get a better idea of thermal diversity in rivers and streams
    - Invertebrate invasive population monitoring to assess impacts of inundation and scour
      - 4 sites between North Fork Trinity and Lewiston Dam
      - Partnered with Humboldt State University graduate student
    - Hoopa is doing a survival study this spring
      - Pilot study last year with acoustic tags, expanding this year
      - Partnership between Hoopa tribe, Yurok tribe, Karuk tribe, and USGS with funding from BOR
        - Tagging 1600 juvenile and monitoring survival on outmigration
  - Design and Construction
    - Oregon Gulch
    - Weaver Creek Project
      - 65% design with Nor Rel Muk Wintu
      - Starting Environmental Compliance
    - Assisting TRRP with gravel augmentation this spring
    - Seeking grants for aquatic monitoring and restoration strategies for Trinity River tributaries with WRTC
- Tsnungwe Tribe not present
- Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation
  - Corral Bottom bridge replacement
    - Working on monitoring
    - Construction process has been extended
  - Del Loma paving project
    - Monitoring agreement with Caltrans
    - Watershed impacts

### Questions?

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- ~ 15 mile project
- Trinity County Resource Conservation District
  - Wild and Scenic Film Festival
    - Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 4-7pm
    - Funded by TRRP and grantor of Ascend Wilderness Experience
    - Benefits Weaverville Summer Day Camp, Environmental Camp at Bar 717 and Ascend Wilderness Experience
  - Weaverville Community Forest
    - Beaver Dam Analogs funding received
    - Programmatic by TRRP and BOR would be very helpful
  - o USFS Field Work
    - Funding received, will be setting up schedule soon
    - Will hiring a high school student to assist with field work
  - Working on Fish Passage Barrier Proposal
    - Through California Fish Passage Forum
    - Assessing Upper Trinity Headwater and Weaverville Basin to update Fish Passage Barrier database
    - Working with Caltrans to include data to database
  - o Upper Trinity Headwater Restoration Plan
    - TerrainWorks model acquired
    - Hope to have a draft by December 2023
  - o Southern Trinity
    - Winter storms delaying access
    - Restoration plan for private ranch later this year
  - Trinity County Hazard Mitigation Plan
    - TCRCD portion on hold until Trinity County Fire Safe Council Position is filled
  - Conservation Planning
    - Jacob Johnson has been working with Tiffany at NRCS for private landowner support with EQIP
    - Adding another planner in April
  - Watershed Program Steward Fellow
    - Applied for this coming fall
    - Still waiting on results
  - Education and Outreach
    - Maya has moved on to a new role
    - Duncan McIntosh is the new contact
    - Noxious Weed Plant Pull on May 13<sup>th</sup>
      - 2 rock painting events at the art work on first Saturday in April and May, rocks will delineate the plots
    - Plant and Seed Exchange on April 22<sup>nd</sup> on Earth Day
      - Connect with Annyssa to set up an informational booth
  - o Roads
    - Cynthia is waiting on funding to plan work for this summer
- The Watershed Research and Training Center

- o Indian Valley Project
  - Now in Corral Gulch project
  - Working on NEPA
  - Closer to design that can be used to seek implementation funding
- Helicopter Large Wood project
  - Implemented this year with Yurok tribe
  - ~300 trees placed by helicopter and yarders
  - In Upper South Fork Trinity, upstream of Forest Glenn
- Salt Creek Project
  - Downtown Hayfork
  - Working towards 90% design with Mike Love and Associates
  - Partnering with Yurok on implementation funding
  - Working on CEQA
- o Browns Creek and Tule Creek Forbearance Project
  - 7 complete, 4 more in progress
  - Applying to NFWS for adding CSD for Browns Creek, Deerlick Springs Road, B Bar K Road, Reading Creek area for homeowners and fish
    - Seeking collaborators
- Tule Creek Fish Passage
  - 100% design
  - Working through NEPA and permitting
- Upper Trinity Headwaters
  - Wetland monitoring
  - Road Assessments by GIS initially
    - Hoping for road upgrade projects
  - Future fuels and fire projects
- Trust for Public Lands
  - Purchasing SPI land in Upper Trinity near Tangle Blue and other locations
  - Helping in decommissioning ~20 miles of roads and ~300 stream crossings
    - Happening this summer, streamlined permitting with the state
- o Riparian Revegetation Projects in Hayfork
  - Seeking additional sites, contact Josh Smith or Jon Cluff
- o Snow Surveys
  - 15 feet of snow on last survey
- 5 Counties Salmonid Conservation Program/Northwest California Resource Conservation & Development Council – not present
- Trinity County Fish and Game Advisory Commission
  - Currently only have 5 commissioners
    - 2 vacancies in recreation
    - 1 vacancy in at large community members
    - 2 vacancies in restoration
    - 1 vacancy in wildlife
  - Working on Trinity River Water Rights
  - Petitioning changes in the deer hunting season

- Meetings every two months on the second Wednesday
  - Next meeting May 10<sup>th</sup>

### Notes from the chat:

- Nathan McCanne (WRTC): For more information on the Trinity County Fish and Game Advisory Commission please reach out to my personal email <u>nmccanne@outlook.com</u>
  - Trinity County Agricultural Alliance
    - Working with Mung farmers on compliance processes
      - Helping with tools for implementation
      - Flowra is also contributing
      - Working with small land owners that may be lower priority for funding
      - New funds through CDFW
        - Help with TCRCD
      - Sad to see that CDFW retracted funding for sustainable cannabis funding
  - Safe Alternatives for our Forest Environment not present
  - Sierra Pacific Industries no updates
  - Flowra
    - Thank the WRTC and Nor Rel Muk Wintu for letters of support for road surveys 319 grant for Post Mountain
    - $\circ\quad$  Working with Cannabis for Conservation
      - Received a grant from CDFW Qualified Cultivator program
      - Pays for CEQA and licensing fees for cannabis growers in HUC 10 watersheds
        - Lower South Fork Trinity
        - Lower Hayfork Creek
        - Upper Hayfork Creek
        - Middle South Fork Trinity
      - Licensing fits into CDFWs 30 by 30 conservation plan
      - Flowra is doing the compliance and CEQA work
  - New Attendees no updates

Notes from the chat:

• Oliver Rogers: Caltrans has come up multiple times during this meeting, do they have a rep to attend in the future?

### Close: Next Meeting is June 13th, 2023 at 10am-12pm

End Meeting 12:15pm