

Meeting Minutes - Trinity County Watershed Council Meeting

Location: Conference Room, Trinity County Resource Conservation District, Weaverville, CA

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Time: 10:00am to 11:15am

Attendance

- Yurok Tribe
- 5C's
- Watershed Research & Training Center
- Watershed Stewards Program (WSP)
- USFS
- CDFW

- TCRC
- SAFE

Absent: BLM, NRCS, Hoopa Tribe, TC Fish & Game Commission, TC Planning Department, Down River Consulting, TRRP

Agenda Items

1. Introductions

2. Program Work/Updates/News

3. 2020 Schedule:

- September 8th – Organized by TRRP location at TRRP Conference room
- December 8th – Organized by TCRC location TBD

Notes

- Yurok Tribe, Kyle DeJulio
 - Submitting bids for Dutch Creek Process (Junction City)
 - Out of channel work starts in June. In channel work to start July 15th.
 - Planning to have everything wrapped up before fall spawning
 - Been widening/putting in roads this winter
 - Indian Creek – draft EA/EIS week of May 8th, 2020.
 - Plan is to be out on the ground this summer.
- 5C's, Sandra Perez
 - Browns Creek water reliability – construction starts soon
 - Sharber Creek water reliability
 - Lower Sydney Project – meander/lower floodplain
 - Sediment work on Deadwood Creek
 - Working with the county on Oregon Street/Sydney Gulch Project – culvert flipped up and created a barrier (summer timeframe)
 - Manzanita Creek Project in beginning stages
- Watershed Stewards Program (WSP), Logan McDiffitt & Zack Pattek
 - Steelhead surveys – WSP members have been conducting weekly steelhead surveys in the Middle & Upper Hayfork Creek watersheds. 100+ redds have been found, numerous juveniles have been seen in pools, and adults are still entering the creeks.

- Hayfork Community Wetland Planting Event – Saturday, February 1st 70 volunteers came out to plant 292 trees with WRTC staff and WSP members
- Watershed Center, Josh Smith & Cindy Buxton
 - TRRP – LiDAR for SFTR (Hayfork/Salt/Tule/Hyampom/Forest Glen/South Fork Mt.)
 - Tule Creek Diversion Project
 - Increase flows/decrease take
 - Aiming for this summer
 - Working on grant to improve monitoring
 - Salt Creek Funded – intensive engineering design (in early stages)
 - Raise streambed to restore shallow ground water connection
 - Design/planning will be expensive
 - Heliwood
 - Still working on survey, most logs have been located
 - Can be very beneficial in Hyampom area
 - Logs moved further than anticipated due to 54k cfs event last year
 - Some logs were tied together with ropes in hopes of decreasing downstream movement
 - 50% of logs are below the reach and 20% within the reach
 - Possibility of presentation to garner more support for the project
- USFS, David Schmerge
 - Tom Hall left
 - DDR Chris Losi – will be there until end of June
 - Environmental lawyer – NEPA pro
 - Knows Shasta-Trinity very well/came from Redding
 - Dubakella
 - Plantations/insect & disease control project
 - 2 split decisions for December
 - Treating fuels this spring
 - Archaeology has surveys to do
 - Pilot
 - Decision in June unlikely
 - Draft EA by end of April also unlikely
 - Trinity Alps prescribed fire to happen in November
 - In EA
 - Dependent upon Weaverville Community Forest
 - Weaverville Community Forest is the top priority
 - Decision in October (not sure it'll be reached by then)
 - Archaeology says lots of field work to be done
 - Burnt Ranch – draft EIS hasn't went out yet
 - Cancellation? – less community excitement
 - Lowest priority
 - Petty John Status? – in litigation/no new updates
 - Cattle Enclosure on Sheil Mt Creek this spring
 - Target now is to get half completed

- Hoping to have crew working in June
 - Obvious signs of overgrazing by cattle
- CDFW, Andrew Hill
 - 3/10/2020 was the last day of steelhead spawning at the hatchery
 - Low counts on steelhead
 - 26 wolves in California
 - 1/3 have been poached
 - One poacher caught, his dog was IDed from scat found near the wolf carcass
- TCRCD, Elizabeth Sandoval
 - Submitted proposal for funds from TRRP to decommission roads in the WCF to reduce sediment in Little Brown's Creek, and decommission roads in South Fork/Gremmill Thin area
- TRRP News
 - Looking to be a critically dry year
 - Public meeting to be held Thursday, March 19th at 5pm at TRRP office to look at the hydrographs
- SAFE, Bob Morris
 - TC Collaborative
 - Waiting for Pilot
 - Cannabis legislation/policy

Minutes compiled by Watershed Stewards partnering at The Watershed Research and Training Center.