

Truckee River Basin Water Group

Meeting Notes for Wednesday, April 24th, 2019 10:00 AM – Noon

Location: U.S. Forest Service – Truckee Ranger District
10811 Stockrest Springs
Truckee, CA 96161

Chairperson: Richard Anderson, Nevada County Supervisor

Convener: Truckee River Watershed Council, Beth Christman, bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org,
530-550-8760 x1#

Time	Item
10:00	<p>Call to Order – Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Agenda Review <p>Outcome: The agenda was adjusted. Dave Hunt from Squaw Valley PSD had a last minute conflict and was unable to come to the meeting.</p>
10:05	<p>Standing Item: Committee Report Back</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No committees met since the last meeting <p>Objective: Provide updates from Technical Response Team, Fish Team and any other ad hoc teams</p> <p>Outcome: No committees met since the last meeting.</p>
10:05	<p>Streamflow and reservoir updates – Tom Scott, DWR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes from March forecast• Streamflow and reservoir levels forecast• Questions and discussion on projected operations <p>Objective: Provide latest information on predicted reservoir operations and model output</p> <p>Outcome: See attached presentation.</p> <p>Tom included a discussion of how “spill” works, to explain why California lost all our credit water earlier this year. He also explained that the “holes” in many of the reservoir operations graphs shown for early summer are artifacts of the model (“holes” being abrupt drops in releases followed by increases), and are something the Federal Watermaster attempts to avoid when possible, which the model helps him to look for. The “hole” in Tahoe releases however, does often</p>

	<p>occur for a short period when Floriston rates are being met from uncontrolled tributaries and there is no demand on Tahoe.</p>
10:45	<p>CA Statewide Fishing Regulation Changes – Beth Christman, TRWC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CDFW is soliciting input on proposed fishing regulation changes• Several changes are proposed for Truckee River streams• Fish Team or others may have input? <p>Objective: Informational item</p> <p>Outcome: Beth provided the information that California fishing regulations are undergoing a revision and there is a comment period open until May 3rd to submit comments to CDFW.</p> <p>While the relationship between the TRBWG’s focus on stream flows and reservoir levels does not have a direct relationship with fishing regulations, many of the TRBWG members are interested in the health of the fishery, which is why this agenda item was included as an informational item.</p> <p>Mitch Lockhart from CDFW was able to provide much more information about the process. Only Special Regulations are currently review. This is in response to direction from the Director of the Department of Fish and Wildlife and is a process that began in 2014.</p> <p>The process included CDFW staff evaluating all current special regulations statewide, identifying commonalities, and establishing “bins” of regulations to make special regulations more standardized across the state.</p> <p>Currently CDFW is accepting public comment through their website: https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Inland/Trout-Plan/Regulation-Simplification through May 3rd. Mitch recommended that succinct, pro-active comments would be best received. Beth suggested that commenting on proposed changes you are in favor of is also very helpful, vs. just changes that you do not agree with.</p> <p>The process for changing the regulations ultimately rests with the California Fish and Game Commission (FGC). CDFW (as well as any interested party) can provide comment and suggestions, but the FGC ultimately sets the regulations. Hearings will begin at the August FGC meeting, and will likely continue for several meetings before any actions are taken. These are public meetings, and public comment on the regulations can be submitted to the FGC, and must be considered by the FGC, so there will be future opportunity to comment on the proposed regulations.</p>

	<p>However, commenting to CDFW between now and May 3rd will help shape CDFW recommendations to FGC.</p> <p>Mitch was asked if there was any specific proposed changes that he was aware of that should be looked at. He did not know of any for the Truckee watershed, but mentioned that there was some concern about the proposed change to Lake Tahoe tributaries regarding the fishing season. The current regulation opens Tahoe tributaries July 1; the proposed change would open Tahoe tributaries the weekend before Memorial Day prolonging the season by up to 5 weeks.</p> <p>Trevor Fagerskog mentioned that the local chapter of Trout Unlimited was pulling together a positions paper. They are concerned about the proposed changes to Prosser Creek in particular.</p> <p>Beth was asked if TRWC was submitted comments. She stated that TRWC supported the proposed changes on Independence Lake. TRWC was concerned for the near-term about opening tributaries of Martis Creek above Martis Lake due to a large construction project scheduled to begin in 2019, and the potential impacts to revegetation that opening that reach to fishing could cause (Martis Creek above Martis Lake is currently closed to fishing). TRWC also was concerned about the proposed Prosser changes (below Prosser dam) due to investments in fish habitat in that reach.</p>
10:55	<p>Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project – Dave Hunt, SVPSD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on 2019 construction – AGENDA ITEM MOVED TO FUTURE DATE <p>Objective: Informational item</p>
11:10	<p><i>Basis for the 2018 California Guidelines for TROA</i> (Basis) – TRBWG member presentations – Public Water and Utilities: Dave Hunt, SVPSD – AGENDA ITEM MOVED TO FUTURE DATE</p> <p>Each member will present on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization’s mission and link to TRBWG • Parts (1-4) of Basis relevant to organization’s objectives • Specific flow and/or reservoir level requests, including timing • Alignment and conflict with other TRBWG members’ objectives <p>Objective: Gain mutual understanding of each member groups preferred flows and/or reservoir levels. Fifth in a series of presentations (see July 2018 meeting materials for background).</p>
11:40	<p>Standing item: Suggestions for future agenda topics</p> <p>Objective: Gather input from attendees for topics of interest</p>

	<p>Outcome: The following items were suggested: -CDFW update on stocking in the Truckee watershed, with a focus on LCT and other trout and a discussion of historic vs. current practices. -Update from Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe on their fishery program -Continuation of Member Presentations</p>
11:50	<p>Standing item: Action Item report back</p> <p>Objective: capture key decisions, discussion points, and action items to include in meeting summary</p> <p>Outcome: Drew Jack from the Town of Truckee requested that if anyone sees any stormwater drainage issues now that snowmelt is starting to happen, please report them to the Town website, (www.townoftruckee.com) either through the "I Want To" tab (see attached screenshot) or the "Your Gov" app (see attached screenshot).</p>
12:00	Adjournment – Convener, for Chair

2019 Meeting Dates

TRBWG

- January 23, 2019
- March 27, 2019
- April 24, 2019
- May 22, 2019
- June 26, 2019
- July 24, 2019
- August 28, 2019
- September 25, 2019
- November 27, 2019

*Note: no TRBWG meeting in February, October, or December

Technical Response Team

- TBD – May

Fish Team

- TBD