

Truckee River Basin Water Group

Meeting Notes for Wednesday, July 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,
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| Time | Item |
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| 10:00 | <p>Call to Order – Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Agenda Review <p>Outcome: No changes to the agenda were proposed.</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 updates were provided as 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 April forecast• Streamflow and reservoir levels forecast• Questions and discussion on projected operations <p>Objective: Provide latest information on projected reservoir operations and model output</p> <p>Outcome: See attached presentation.</p> <p>Tom included a summary of the different categories of water under TROA and the types of water stored in each of the reservoirs.</p> <p>A question was asked about Floriston rates – roughly what percent of Floriston rate water is natural? Tom said a very rough guide is that 1/3 of the water comes from Tahoe, 1/3 from other reservoirs, and 1/3 from “side flow” or unregulated tributaries.</p> <p>Lindsay Romack (Placer County) stated that they are receiving a lot of complaints and questions about the low flows in the Truckee River. Tom stated that in wet years, it is normal to not have releases out of Tahoe because</p> |

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| | <p>Floriston rates are being met by other sources and there is no demand for the releases. Lindsay acknowledged she was aware of the problem, but just wanted to note the public frustration – especially because Lake Tahoe is so high, it is hard for the public to understand why some of the water can't be let out.</p> <p>Danielle Poret (River Ranch) stated that she was receiving similar complaints from her guests and customers and asked if there was a two sentence answer for the general public. See Action Items for further discussion on public communications.</p> |
| 10:35 | <p>The Freshwater Trust – Erik Ringleberg (www.thefreshwatertrust.org)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freshwater Trust background • Examples of successful transactions <p>Objective: Informational item</p> <p>Outcome: See attached presentation</p> <p>A question was asked about if the Freshwater Trust had done any Sierra Nevada work. Erik said they had really focused so far on the Central Valley as these are the highest priority groundwater basins, but they are looking to expand their geographic focus.</p> <p>Is there any applicability of their modeling approach to local issues – specifically securing rafting flows? Erik said that it would be possible to build a model incorporating economic impacts of flows.</p> <p>Are there any opportunities that Erik sees locally given his past experience working for the Pyramid Lake Paiute tribe and familiarity with the Truckee River system? Maybe – now that TROA is in place there may be more space to consider different options by TROA parties.</p> |
| 11:20 | <p><i>Basis for the 2018 California Guidelines for TROA (Basis)</i> – TRBWG member presentations – San Francisco Fly Casting Club, John Jones</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. Seventh in a series of presentations (see July 2018 meeting materials for background).</p> <p>Outcome: See attached presentation.</p> |

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| | <p>A question was asked about stocking – is there any consideration by the club to shift away from hatchery stocking and rely on natural recruitment instead? Currently SFFCC stocks with triploid (sterile) rainbow trout, so their stocking does not contribute to local broodstock. The club is working on evaluating their stocking program and may consider reducing the number of fish planted.</p> <p>Does SFFCC have any official position on habitat improvements in the Truckee? The club has completed projects on their reach of the river in partnership with Trout Unlimited. They do not have any official data on the results, but the project appears to be having positive effects. SFFCC supports additional TU efforts to create fish habitat along the Truckee River.</p> |
| 11:50 | <p>Standing item: Suggestions for future agenda topics</p> <p>Objective: Gather input from attendees for topics of interest</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <p>The following topics were proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from USFWS on Pyramid Lake fishery in the fall. Tim Loux and Derek Bloomquist from USFWS agreed that it would be timely. Tim could also present on fish passage work, and noted that work on Debry Dam fish passage was starting soon. • TROA 101? Is it possible to do a 1 hour overview? • Developing public outreach pieces |
| 11:55 | <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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRWC will work with DWR on what might be an appropriate TROA 101 content and format • TRWC will form a communications subcommittee to work on public outreach pieces that help to explain TROA’s impacts on recreation and potentially other aspects of river operations. This will likely start in the fall. Several members volunteered to participate. |
| 12:00 | Adjournment – Chair |

2019 Meeting Dates

TRBWG

- January 23, 2019
- March 27, 2019
- April 24, 2019
- May 22, 2019
- June 26, 2019

Technical Response Team

- TBD

Fish Team

- TBD

- July 24, 2019
- August 28, 2019
- September 25, 2019
- November 27, 2019

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