

Truckee River Basin Water Group

Meeting Notes for Wednesday, March 23rd, 2022 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: On-line/phone Meeting only
Truckee River Basin Water Group Meeting

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Chairperson: Hardy Bullock, Nevada County Supervisor

Convener: Truckee River Watershed Council, Beth Christman, bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org, 530-550-8760, x1 # and Eben Swain, eswain@truckeeriverwc.org, 530-550-8760 x7 #

Time	Item
10:00	Call to Order – Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Agenda Review
10:10	Standing Item: Committee Report Back <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No committees met since last meeting Objective: Provide updates from Technical Response Team, Fish Team and any other ad hoc teams Outcome: none, no committees met since the last meeting.
10:10	Truckee River Access – Hirschdale update – Hardy Bullock, Nevada County <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process update• Conservation elements Objective: Informational item, provide update to TRBWG members Outcome: Supervisor Bullock provided a brief update on the stakeholder group that he convened to address Truckee River access

	<p>issues at Hirschdale. There is a mix of public and private properties and easements in the area. The stakeholder group established a series of short- and long-term objectives, and the County is committed to preserving river access and access to the Tahoe Pyramid bikeway. One of the next steps is to complete property surveys to clarify parcel boundaries.</p> <p>The full report is available at: https://www.mynevadacounty.com/814/Supervisor-District-5 - link is on upper left sidebar.</p>
10:20	<p>Streamflow and reservoir updates – Tom Scott, DWR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes from previous forecast • Streamflow and reservoir levels forecast • Questions and discussion on projected operations <p>Objective: Provide latest information on projected reservoir operations and model output, increase TRBWG member knowledge about TROA</p> <p>Outcome: See attached presentation.</p> <p>Question: when will Tahoe releases support rafting below the dam? According to the current model, flows will reach ~305 cfs on June 15th.</p> <p>Tom asked for input on Prosser Reservoir releases. To maintain flows at 100 cfs in Prosser Creek below the dam, it will cost California approximately 800 acre-feet of Joint Program Fish Credit Water (JPFCW). If we reduce flows to 60 cfs, it will cost California approximately 500 acre-feet of JPFCW. Tom noted that while the point of JPFCW is to use it, we should be looking ahead in the event of a prolonged drought, so we should be thoughtful about when to use our water for direct release. Tom also noted water released now will lead to a reduced reservoir level in the summer – and a low reservoir level may increase water temperature for summer releases and therefore temperature in Prosser Creek. Mitch Lockhart of CDFW was asked for input. He noted that there isn't any information available that would allow for quantification of the difference in spawning habitat available at 60 cfs vs. 100 cfs. However, the important thing is to not drop flows once fish start spawning in the spring. Tom proposed a compromise of 80 cfs, and that seemed reasonable to CDFW and the TRBWG members present.</p> <p>Question: when is peak runoff predicted? Tom pulled up the California-Nevada River Forecast Center website (https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/) that has predictions for peak runoff in local streams. Tom thought that perhaps peak runoff might happen earlier than predicted given the current warm weather.</p>

11:10	<p>USFWS Fisheries Activities, Tim Loux/Derek Bloomquist, USFWS Status update lower river spawning season</p> <p>Objective: Informational item. Lahontan cutthroat trout and cui-ui spawning out of Pyramid Lake affects reservoir operations in the upper watershed. USFWS will provide regular updates to TRBWG during the spawning season.</p> <p>Outcome: see attached presentation.</p>
11:20	<p>Standing item: Suggestions for future agenda topics & announcements</p> <p>Objective: Gather input from attendees for topics of interest</p> <p>Outcome: There were no suggestions or announcements from members.</p>
11:25	<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: No action items resulted from the meeting.</p>
11:30	Adjournment – Chair

2022 Meeting Dates:

TRBWG – monthly*

- January 26, 2022
- March 23, 2022
- April 27, 2022
- May 25, 2022
- June 22, 2022
- July 27, 2022
- September 28, 2022
- November 16, 2022

Technical Response Team

- TBD

Fish Team

- TBD

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