

Conservation Almanac

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Spring 2016 Vol. XXV No. 2

2015 TCRCD Annual Report

2015 Year in Review

This year marked a time of change at the District, with new staff coming on board, some staff leaving, and old staff coming back to lend a helping hand. The work that the District performs also evolved with long term projects coming to a close, new projects starting and opportunities to build new partnerships and renew existing relationships in the community continuing.

Coming to the District half way through the year, I took over the District Manager role from Alex Cousins, who left the District to pursue other opportunities to make positive changes in the community. As a leader in the community, Alex continues to work with the District as a member of the Trinity Collaborative and Board Member of the new non-profit organization, Friends of Trinity County RCD. I look forward to working with him more in the future.

The District also welcomed back former DM Pat Frost as a consultant. Being new to the District and also absent from the community for a few years, I consider Pat a personal mentor and invaluable resource to the District. Continuing his service in a more community driven way, Pat has also taken on the role of facilitator for the Trinity Collaborative.

This year the District successfully completed projects in the fields of road maintenance/decommissioning, fuels reduction, revegetation, planning and education. New opportunities to work with federal and state agencies helped strengthen and renew our partnerships with them. The District continues to support the Trinity River Restoration Program through outreach and education programs. The District and Caltrans formed new agreements for revegetation work and the District continued to work with the BLM and USFS in cooperatively managing the Weaverville Community Forest. The District continued to facilitate the Trinity Collaborative and their efforts to collaboratively work with the USFS to plan, design and implement successful forestry



management projects that benefit the local economy without degrading the environment for future generations.

Even with all the changes and challenges, the District looks forward to continuing to work with landowners, agencies and organizations to further the goals of conservation in the county in 2016 and beyond. Some of the new and exciting projects in 2016 include: fuels reduction in the Trinity Center area, road decommissioning in the South Fork, native plant nursery development, trails work in the Weaverville Community Forest and other natural resource related projects.

As the District Manager I would like to thank all the great people of Trinity County for their awareness and support of the District and its mission.

Friends Of The Trinity County Resource Conservation District

The Friends of the Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Friends) was established as a non-profit in 2015 in association with the Trinity County Resource Conservation District. The purpose of this non-profit is to support the mission and ongoing work of the RCD. The Friends helps the District further its mission by securing funds not otherwise available to the RCD, through foundations, tax-deductible donations and gifts. Increasing the variety and amount of revenue streams available to both organizations can help the District extend its programs and increase effectiveness. Donors can create an enduring legacy that perpetuates a commitment to conservation by supporting the Friends through a gift in one's will. Check us out at www.fotcrccd.org



Forests and Watersheds 2015

Illegal Dump and Trespass Grow Site Clean-ups

Through a grant from CalRecycle, the District cleaned up a total of 25 illegal dumpsites in the County, three of them on private property and the remaining on public lands managed by US Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the County. As part of the conditions of the grant, all of the illegal dumpsites had to be on land zoned for timber or agriculture uses. Several trespass marijuana grow sites were reclaimed and remediated.

Fuels Reduction

District fuels crews spent several weeks at the beginning of 2015 clearing under Trinity Public Utilities District power lines in the Hyampom area for fire protection, access and safety. Work consisted of removing, cutting, trimming, and clearing away of all shrubs, brush, small trees, limbs, branches and/or foliage to ground level within the required right-of-way.

Another project with the Trinity PUD involved clearing around hundreds of power poles throughout the county in an effort to minimize the threat of catastrophic fires.

Pacific Gas and Electric contracted with the District on two separate fuel reduction projects – one in Burnt Ranch and one in Del Loma. In the Burnt Ranch project 46 parcels were treated creating defensible space around homes and outbuildings; and creating shaded fuel breaks along existing roads. On the Del Loma project heavy thickets of brush and trees were removed from under power lines and chipped on site.

With the help of state funded workers for drought relief hired through the Smart Center, the District removed fuels along

2/3 of a mile of roadways in the Weaverville Community Forest near Mill Street. The “drought crew” also worked alongside District employees on several 2015 fuels reduction projects.

Forest Stewardship

The District signed a new 10 year stewardship agreement for the Weaverville Community Forest with BLM. The agreement also included an additional 2,100 BLM acres being added to the WCF in 2015. Other 2015 BLM stewardship projects included timber-related work in the Grass Valley Creek watershed and planning for a firewood sale from the 2015 Brown’s fire footprint.

An on-going Oak Woodlands monitoring project in the WCF expanded in 2015 with additional funding from the Humboldt UC Cooperative Extension.

Watershed Coordination

The District coordinates the Trinity River Watershed Council (TRWC) through funding from TRRP. The TRWC brings together all of the agencies and stakeholders working on watershed restoration, rehabilitation, and natural resources management with the goal of improved water quality and ecological resilience in the watershed. The Council’s newly-developed mission statement encompasses the work of the group and reads:

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.

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RCD crew on chipping project.

Native Habitat Restoration

The District's Vegetation Management Program was busy with a variety of projects in 2015 including efforts to control and eradicate noxious weeds, conduct rare plant surveys and wetland delineations, native plant propagation, and planting, maintenance, and monitoring of restoration sites. Our native plant nursery was full in 2015, partially with thousands of plants maintained for the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP). We propagated native plants for three restoration projects we are implementing, and also for the District's revegetation on decommissioned roads. Funding and partnerships with several organizations including the US Forest Service (USFS), the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), TRRP, Caltrans, the Federal Highway Administration (FHA), and the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program supported these efforts.

Invasive species management is critical to protecting habitat for native plants and wildlife. In 2015 TCRCD continued work on two long term noxious weed management projects funded by the USFS, and began work on a third. This was the fourth year of a five-year effort to control of Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) on private properties in Junction City. We also removed dyer's woad (*Isatis tinctoria*), around the Carville ponds. 2015 was our first year working on an inventory and treatment project for several noxious weed species for the USFS in the footprint of the Sims fire near Hyampom. In addition, the District continued to treat dyer's woad with funding from TRRP at the Upper and Lower Junction City sites, and along Sky Ranch Road. These populations of dyer's woad are especially important to treat as they are the lowest known occurrences along the Trinity River. The District



Willow and maple stock from locally collected plant material, propagated by TCRCD for use at restoration sites.

continues to seek funding to support noxious weed control in Trinity County.

In 2015 TCRCD performed rare plants surveys for TRRP, Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program, and the Trinity County Collaborative. The District also assisted TRRP with wetland delineation work. Wetland delineations and rare plant surveys are conducted to determine if rare or sensitive plants are present prior to any ground disturbances. They are required under state and federal laws to ensure adequate management of botanical resources.

The District continued to propagate plants for restoration sites resulting from road maintenance activities last year. We planted two sites - a wetland mitigation site known as Dinner Gulch on Hyampom Road for FHA; and a Caltrans on-site mitigation project known as Whole Enchilada. We also planted salvaged plants at these sites, as well as the Caltrans site at Collins Bar. We completed five-year agreements to maintain and monitor additional mitigation sites for Caltrans at China Slide down river and the Lowden site in Lewiston. Maintaining restoration sites involves treating invasive species and any noxious weeds, and watering planted container stock while the plants get established.

The District provides weed wrenches and tree planting tools that Trinity County residents may borrow for work on their own properties. For more information on borrowing a tool or how to obtain native plants from our nursery or native grass seed, please call our office.



TCRCD employees tackle a large patch of Scotch broom, on private property off of Senger Road in Junction City.

Road-related Sediment Reduction Projects

During 2015 the District worked on road decommissioning projects on US Forest Service land in the South Fork Trinity River Watershed, road upgrades in the Grass Valley Creek Watershed, and USFS emergency road work after the 2015 wildfires.

The TCRCO completed several road decommissioning projects in 2015 in the South Fork Trinity River Watershed. Road decommissioning improves water quality. By removing road beds, re-creating the natural hill slope, and planting with native species, sediment from these old roads stops running into creeks and rivers. Approximately five miles of roads in the Salt Creek Watershed near the intersection of Hwy 36 and Hwy 3 were decommissioned. These roads were identified in the 2011 USFS Westside Watershed Restoration Project. Work continued with approximately three miles of road decommissioning on two roads in the Prospect Creek Watershed near Pine Root Saddle.

Once the roads were decommissioned, the District revegetated the sites. All disturbed areas were seeded with native grass and mulched with certified weed free straw; and all excavated stream crossings were replanted with riparian species and conifers. The decommissioned road sections between stream crossings were planted with conifers.



In October the District completed a road upgrade project near Buckhorn Summit off Hwy 299, on County Line Road South. This BLM public access road is part of the Grass Valley Creek Watershed in Trinity County. The road is comprised predominately of decomposed granite (DG) soils and was in need of road drainage improvements. This work included rock surfacing, rocked rolling dips to disperse surface runoff, and the cleaning of partially plugged culverts and inboard ditches.

During October the TCRCO received a request from the USFS to work on the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Project on roads affected by the 2015 fires in the River Complex, generally in areas between Denny and Big Bar on the north side of the Trinity River. This work included three large, separate areas, Big French Creek Road, Ironside Mountain Road and an area upstream of Denny. The work included cleaning the inlet basins and adding overflow saddle risers on existing culverts at stream crossings; adding critical dips to eliminate any chance of streams diverting away from the natural channel in case the culvert at a stream channel plugged and overtopped the roadway; repairing the roadway where stumps had burned out leaving large holes in the road; and other road improvements. The TCRCO was able to complete the most critical work before rain caused work to cease. This work will be finished in 2016.

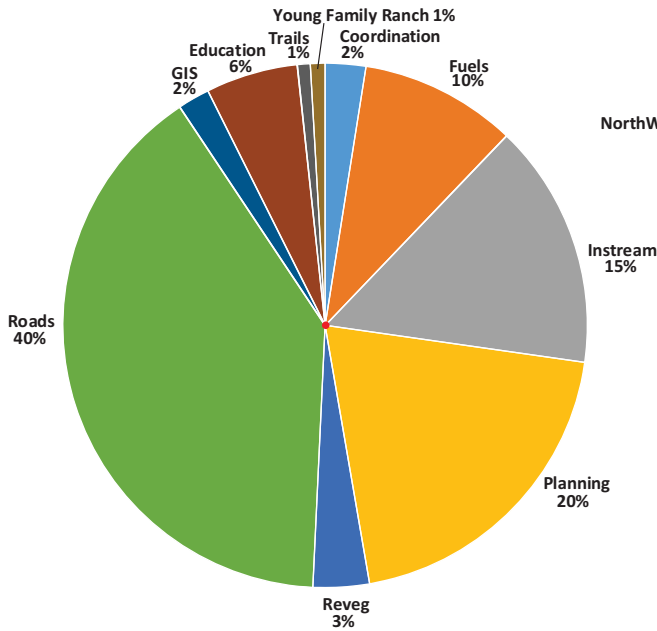
Funding for TCRCO road-related projects in 2015 came from the Trinity County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Off-Highway Vehicle Commission, US Forest Service and the Trinity River Restoration Program. The TCRCO is here to assist the landowners of Trinity County. Please contact us if you need more information or assistance with road-related issues.

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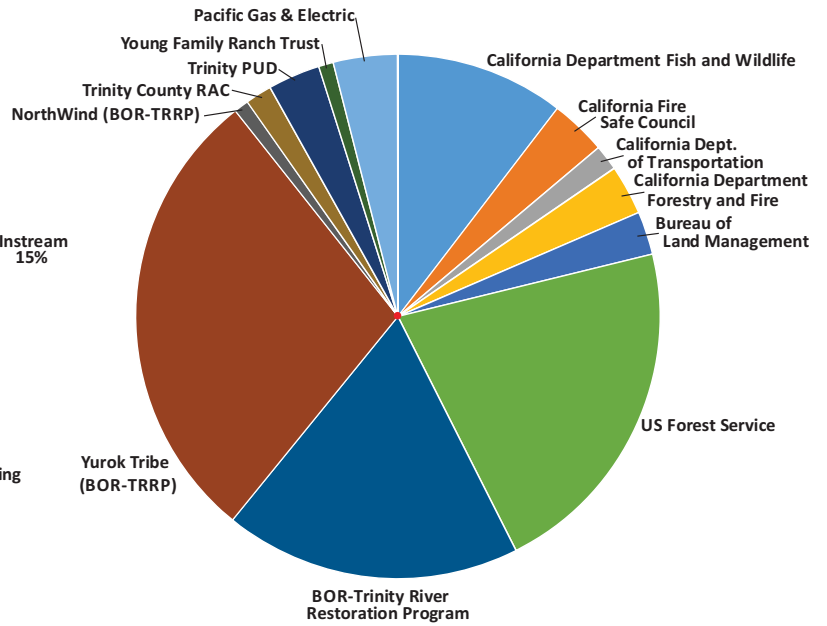
Before, during and after stream crossing excavation on 28N51A Mile 0.35 Prospect Creek Watershed, South Fork Trinity River.

New Projects 2015 - By Funding Source & Type

Total: \$2,526,598



New Projects 2015 Projects by Type



New Projects 2015 Projects by Funding Source

Road - related Sediment Reduction Projects, cont.



Inlet basin cleaned and rip rap placed at inlet of existing culvert.



Inlet basin cleaned, rip rap placed at inlet and saddle riser added to existing culvert.

2015 Young Family Ranch Review

Activities at the Young Family Ranch (YFR) in 2015 included planting and maintaining an extremely productive garden that benefited hundreds of community residents; hosting the 7th Annual Plant and Seed Exchange and the inaugural YFR BBQ fundraiser; providing a location and financial support for the Weaverville Summer Day Camp; providing a location for the Weaverville Elementary School's third grade Pioneer Craft Day; and supporting several community organizations by offering meeting spaces for a nominal fee.

The Young Family Ranch is a three-acre farm dating to 1898 that sits above downtown Weaverville on Oregon Street. Its grounds contain the 1950's era ranch house, old barns and the new pavilion, and includes fruit trees, vegetable gardens, lawns and paddocks. The District is contracted by the YFR board of trustees to maintain the ranch, manage day-to-day operations and to coordinate programs, events and other uses and activities to benefit the public. The District also writes and submits grant proposals to obtain funding for public programs and improvements at the Ranch.

During 2015 the Ranch garden produced one of the best crops in recent years thanks to the work and volunteer hours put in by the University of California Master Gardeners. The UC Cooperative Extension, sponsors of the Master Gardener program, along with the CalFresh Nutrition Education program, have offices at the Ranch. With the work of volunteers and District employees, the garden yielded over 500 pounds of produce. The squash, tomatoes, beans,

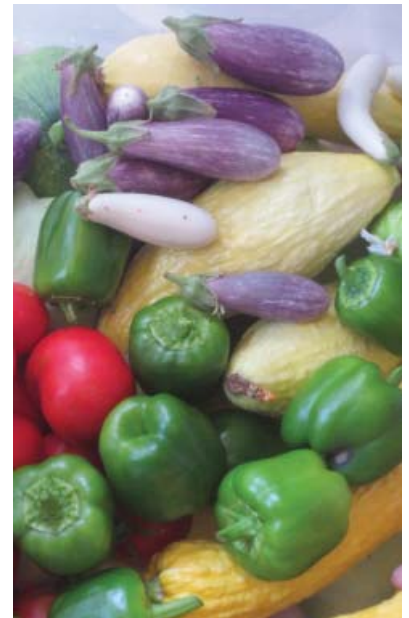
carrots, beets, potatoes, apples, and various other edibles were donated and used to demonstrate nutritional recipes at the Weaverville Farmers Market, Golden Age Center, Roderick Senior Center, Shascade Community Services, Weaverville Summer Day Camp, local food banks, and area schools.

The YFR garden also provided an outdoor classroom for Weaverville students, day campers and children enrolled in Human Response Network's Weaverville After School Program. Winter squash and pumpkins grown in the garden were sold by Master Gardeners at the Trinity River Salmon Festival in October to fund YFR garden supplies for the 2016 season.

The 7th Annual Plant and Seed Exchange was a big success with community members and local businesses donating and exchanging plants, starts, bulbs, and seeds. Nearly 100 people attended.

The inaugural YFR BBQ fundraiser brought together the community with live music, food and drink. Donations from local artists, Tops Market, Sierra Nevada Brewing Company, and many organizations and individuals made this a successful event with a net benefit to the Ranch of almost \$2,000.

Weaverville Summer Day Camp was held at the YFR for three weeks in July, an outdoor tradition that Trinity County families cherish. The YFR board and the TCRCD are both committed to making this camp available to all who come, regardless of their income. In 2015, the Ranch trust covered over half of the cost of running Summer Day Camp, as family contributions cover only one-third of the true cost of camp and some previous funding sources were not available in 2015.



Day campers: Children at 2015 Weaverville Summer Day Camp.

Education and Outreach

Our 2015 education and outreach lineup covered everything from specific educational programs solely created and implemented by the District, to support of multi-agency events designed to reach the broadest possible audience.

This newsletter, Conservation Almanac, was delivered to all who requested it by mail and email. Copies are also available at all branches of the Trinity County Library, several businesses, and the Chamber of Commerce display inside Tops Market in Weaverville. As technology evolves, we continue to add new ways to provide information people need to protect, manage, conserve and restore the natural resources found in Trinity County. Our Facebook page, Trinity County-RCD, offers immediate electronic coverage and feedback.

A quick review of our 2015 education and outreach efforts indicate that we reached about 525 students through classes, camps, field trips and student focused-events. Our all-age outreach and education efforts reached over 300 adults through a variety of outlets including the Plant and Seed Exchange, Bird Watch Walks, the TRRP sponsored Trinity River Salmon Festival, and a UC co-sponsored workshop on Tree Mortality. The Trinity County Fair was canceled due to wildfire.

Highlights for TCRC D youth education and outreach in 2015 include:

- Our first \$500 scholarship awarded to Yori Hook, THS graduate
- Three, week-long Summer Day Camp sessions at the Young Family Ranch



Summer day campers exploring Rush Creek.



2015 Trinity River Salmon Festival.

- Three day, two night Environmental Science Camp for Weaverville sixth grade students at Bar 717 Ranch; and a one day camp for Hayfork sixth grade students, both sponsored by TRRP
- River Days for Hayfork and Hyampom students
- Oak woodlands, fire ecology, and wetland classes and field trips for Weaverville fourth and fifth grade students

Highlights for all-age education and outreach in 2015 include:

- Coordination of the Trinity County Collaborative community meetings and field trips
- Coordination of Trinity County Fire Safe Council meetings and the 2015 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Update
- Continuation of the "Explore Trinity!" hiking series in coordination with the Watershed Research and Training Center

During 2015 the District received funding and assistance for conservation education and outreach from Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP), US Forest Service, Young Family Ranch Trust, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management HOL mini-grants through the National Environmental Education Foundation, California Community Forests Foundation, Redding Rancheria, California Fire Safe Council, Trinity Trust, UC Cooperative Extension, Watershed Research and Training Center and individual contributors.

Recreation

With the World Endurance Mountain Bike Organization's World Solo 24-Hour Mountain Bike Championships (WEMBO) race in October 2015, the District had a busy spring and summer season working on trails in the Weaverville Community Forest.

A large portion of the District's Weaver Basin Trail accomplishments in 2015 were funded from the USFS Title II Resource Advisory Committee, through the Shasta Trinity National Forest. Highlights from 2015 include:

- The District, with assistance from the Weaver Basin Trail Committee volunteers and technical assistance from USFS personnel, inventoried the Weaver Basin Trail System signs, cleaned up and simplified the trail names, corrected mileage information, and drafted a plan for new sign designs and installation.
- District employees and Weaver Basin Trail Committee volunteers worked with the Redding California Conservation Corps (CCC) crews during June to remove old trail signs and install new ones. A total of 43 signs were installed.
- The District contracted with the California Conservation Corps Redding Center Trail Crew to bring a 14-person trail crew to help construct the Misery Hill Bypass. This new route ties the Jackass Ridge Trail to the Day Ranch Creek Trail.
- Trail brushing was completed on McKenzie Loop Trail.
- The District worked with the USFS personnel to identify a location for an informational kiosk, and it was installed at the parking area on Weaver Bally Road at the Garden Gulch Spur and McKenzie Gulch Spur trailheads. A newly revised Weaver Basin Trail Map was also installed at this kiosk with weather proof Plexiglas sheet covering. New trail maps were also installed at the kiosks located at the East Weaver Creek Campground trailhead and the Lower Musser Hill trailhead along East Weaver Creek Road.
- Community Trail Volunteers donated many hours performing trail maintenance to help prepare for the WEMBO event in October.
- Through a grant from the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) and Subaru, the District hosted events in April to help increase volunteer interest in and support of the Weaver Basin Trail System, including hands-on trail building and field instruction. Volunteers spent an afternoon improving a new route on the WBT system to bypass a steep, eroded section. This new route helped tie into a planned section of USFS trail that connects the Jackass Ridge Trail to the East Weaver Creek Trail.
- Four foot bridges were installed along the Garden Gulch Spur Trail. The new bridges will help to reduce trail erosion in wet areas.



New foot bridge along Garden Gulch Spur Trail.

Geographic Information System/Information Technology

Early in 2015, the District completed work on the Trinity County Parcel Viewer which is accessible through the County's website (<http://www.trinitycounty.org/index.aspx?page=284>). This web mapping application gives the general public the ability to look up a physical address or parcel number and find information for that location such as lot acreage, Zoning and General Planning Designations, if the parcel is affected by a FEMA flood zone, Supervisorial District and current Supervisor, School District, Fire Protection District, Water and Sewer service providers, Electricity provider, etc. Many common questions about a property can now be answered in one convenient online location, which has reduced the amount of time that overburdened County employees spend responding to such routine inquiries.

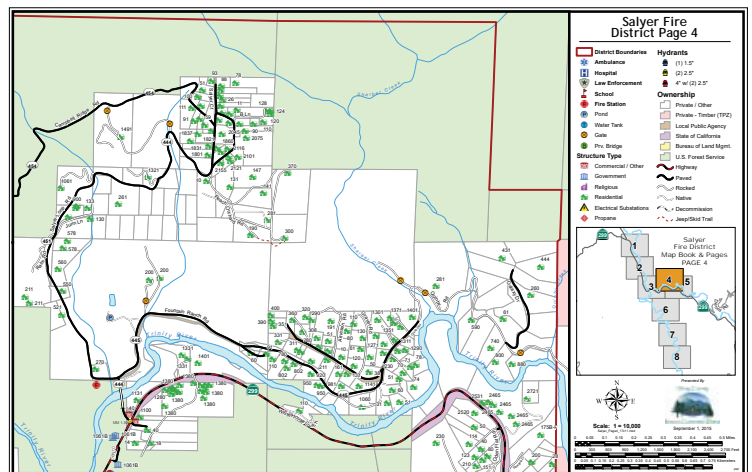
In preparation for the World Endurance Mountain Bike Organization (WEMBO) 2015 Solo 24-hour Championship race, the Weaver Basin Trail System (WBTS) maps were updated to reflect recent changes in the system such as a newly constructed piece of the Jackass Ridge Trail that comes up from East Weaver Creek to the northern most portion of the ridge. Elevation profiles of trails were also generated and included on the hardcopy maps posted at five trailheads around the basin giving hikers, mountain bikers, and horse riders a sense of the terrain for several popular loops on the system. A new online web mapping application for the WBTS was launched making it possible to access trail information such as trail lengths, elevation profiles, photos, historic features, and trailhead locations. The application is available on mobile devices as well as desktop computers (<http://www.tcrd.net/index.php/2014-02-05-08-30-03/weaverville-basin-trail-system>).

With the threat of wildfire being ever-present in our communities, the Volunteer Fire Chiefs Association, Emergency Responders, and Sheriff's Department funded a project to replicate the Weaverville Fire Protection District's map book for each of the Volunteer Fire Departments throughout the county. The Weaverville map book project, completed in 2014, had been funded by the Trinity County Fire Safe Council. It is a detailed, atlas style map book

that includes all labeled streets, physical addresses, and locations of infrastructure features such as hydrants, water sources, gates, hazardous materials, etc., all contained in a single, easy to use source. Because of the importance of such a document in the event of an emergency, the District was asked to complete a map book for the response areas of each of the other VFDs in the County. Map books for Hayfork, Lewiston, Douglas City, Junction City, Hawkins Bar, and Salyer were completed in 2015, with the remainder of the county to be finalized in 2015.



Weaver Basin Trail System mobile app.



An example of a page from the VFD map books created for each fire department.

Trinity River Restoration Program Partnership Activities in 2015

In 2015 the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP/Program) marked its tenth year of in-channel, constructed projects on the Trinity River.

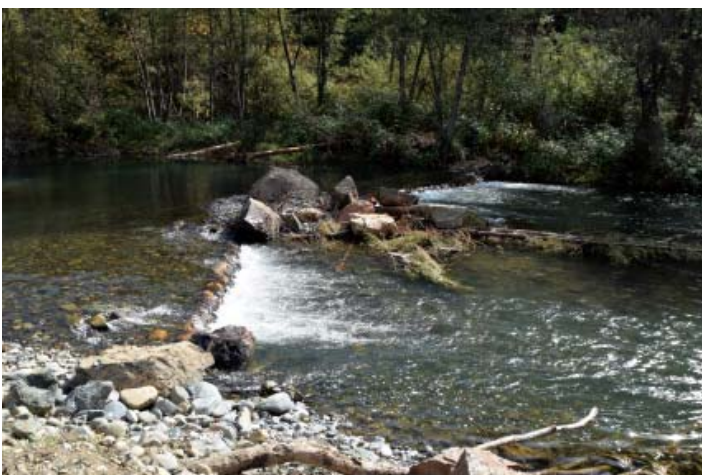
During the summer of 2015, TRRP constructed the Limekiln Gulch Channel Rehabilitation project under the direction of the Yurok Tribe Watershed Program. The Yurok Tribe is one of the nine TRRP partners, all working to rehabilitate and restore habitat for fish populations. The Limekiln Gulch Channel Rehabilitation project is the first large-scale restoration project completed in its entirety by the Yurok Tribe.

The Limekiln Gulch site is located approximately six miles upstream of Douglas City, just upstream of the Bureau of Land Management Steel Bridge Campground. The project area encompasses a stretch of the Trinity River that is relatively straight, with mixed coniferous forests upland and a mixed-willow riparian habitat immediately next to the river. It was designed to function using these site-specific characteristics, as well as variable flows, gravel augmentation, and constructed features that provide more complexity for aquatic habitat needs. To increase habitat, large boulders were placed in the river where they would create protected pockets of aerated water. The crew also built side channels to create slower water habitat for juvenile salmon and

steelhead; and installed large wood structures that serve as hiding places, especially in high water, for small salmonids.

Development of the Limekiln Gulch project included meetings with local residents, stakeholders, and other interested parties to receive feedback and enhance public understanding of TRRP goals. These groups came together with public land managers and the Trinity Management Council to discuss biological and physical designs, monitoring methods, and mitigation measures necessary to implement projects in a cost-effective and ecologically sound manner.

The success of the TRRP in restoring native fish populations depends upon many elements. External factors such as ocean health, climate change, and watershed conditions affect physical and biological functions that can deplete fish populations, despite the quality of newly restored habitat. The perception of natural processes, inherently slow to respond to management actions, can be misleading to those who observe little change over the short term. However the benefits of river restoration are becoming more evident as the TRRP continues into its 16th year, using variable flows, mechanical actions, and adaptive management methods designed to bring back a healthy fishery and more sustainable, high-quality riparian habitat.



Main channel boulder and large wood structure create habitat diversity and refuge during high flows.



Constructed low flow side channel provides rearing habitat for juvenile salmon and steelhead.

TCRCD Administration

The Trinity County RCD (TCRCD) is a non-regulatory special district self-governed by five volunteer directors appointed by the Trinity County Board of Supervisors. The TCRCD serves all of Trinity County and receives grant funding from local, regional, state and federal partners. These entities recognize that locally-led projects yield the greatest benefits. Project involvement by the TCRCD enhances public trust and provides greater cost-effectiveness. This approach generates local jobs and enhances the local economy. Employees of the District carry out the day-to-day operations, guided by priorities and policies set by the TCRCD board.

Meet our Board of Directors:

Colleen O'Sullivan, board member since 2002. Colleen graduated from Humboldt State University in 1984 with a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resource Planning. Her interests lie in protecting and enhancing the abundant natural resources of Trinity County, which she feels is compatible with intelligent and thoughtful growth. In 2013 the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts bestowed a top statewide award to Colleen as RCD Director of the Year. The state association pointed to her steady leadership of the local district, noting that during her tenure, TCRCD has been at the forefront in natural resources management and education throughout the County. The award noted her efforts in helping to establish the 13,000-acre Weaverville Community Forest on forestlands administered by the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management

Gregory Lowden, board member since 1992. Greg has been a resident of Weaverville since 1967. He graduated from Trinity High School in 1969. After a tour of duty with the U.S. Army, he attended Shasta Junior College in Redding, graduating with an AA degree in history in 1974. He has been employed as a surveyor with Hunt Land Surveying, Inc., since 1978. Active in community affairs, he is a member of the Weaverville Lion's Club and the Weaverville Basin Trails Committee.

Rose Owens, board member since 1992. Rose, a long-time county resident, has resided in Hayfork since 1946 and is a Trinity High School graduate. She worked for the Trinity County Office of Education for nearly 25 years, retiring in



Board members left to right: Gregory Lowden, Mike Rourke, Colleen O'Sullivan, Rose Owens and Patrick Truman.

1996. Her family owned and operated a sawmill and logging company. Rose also serves on the Trinity Public Utilities District Board and is executive director of the Roderick Senior Center.

Mike Rourke, board member since 1996. Mike teaches agriculture at Trinity High School (THS), where he has taught for over 20 years. His subjects include animal science, plant science, forestry, natural resource management, agriculture business management, and agriculture mechanics. He has been recognized as the "Outstanding Agriculture Teacher" in northern California for having the "Outstanding Agriculture Program" at THS. He currently farms the roughly 900-acre Rourke Ranch in partnership with his wife, father, and mother. The ranch includes 100 acres of irrigated pasture, plus timberland, rangeland, and wildlife habitat.

Patrick Truman, board member since 1984. Patrick is currently a sales associate/property manager with Realty World/Trinity River Realty in Weaverville. Patrick is past President of the CA Association of RCDs and represents the state association on the National Association of Conservation Districts Board of Directors.

Trinity County



Resource Conservation District

Established 1956

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

P.O. Box 1450

Weaverville, CA 96093



District Board Meetings

Third Wednesday
5:30 PM
Open to the Public

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The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) is a special district set up under state law to carry out conservation work and education. It is a not-for-profit, self-governing district whose board of directors volunteer their time.

The TCRCD Vision

TCRCD envisions a balance between utilization and conservation of our natural resources. Through economic diversity and ecosystem management our communities will achieve and sustain a quality environment and healthy economy.

The TCRCD Mission

To assist people in protecting, managing, conserving and restoring the natural resources of Trinity County through information, education, technical assistance and project implementation programs.

TCRCD Board of Directors are
Mike Rourke, Rose Owens, Patrick Truman,
Colleen O'Sullivan, and Greg Lowden.

The RCD is landowners assisting landowners with conservation work. The RCD can guide the private landowner in dealings with state and federal agencies. The RCD provides information on the following topics:

- Forest Land Productivity
- Watershed Improvement
- Water Supply and Storage
- Educational Programs
- Erosion/Sediment Control
- Wildlife Habitat
- Soil and Plant Types
- Fuels Reduction

This issue of the *Conservation Almanac* is funded in part by grants from the Trinity River Restoration Program, Young Family Ranch Trust, California Fire Safe Council, US Forest Service and the Trinity County Resource Advisory Council.

Printed on Recycled Paper with Vegetable Inks



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