Conservation Almanac

Trinity County Resource Conservation District Quarterly Newsletter — Winter 2021-22 Vol. XXX No. 4

Forests, Fires, and Carbon: Burning Questions Answered

What is the connection between forests and the carbon cycle?

Carbon sequestration is the process of taking in carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it in solid or liquid form on earth. All plants, including trees, naturally sequester carbon by taking it in through their leaves. About forty percent of this carbon is returned to the atmosphere within weeks through cellular processes. The rest is stored in leaves, roots, or wood until that part of the tree dies and decomposes, which can be anywhere from months to centuries (Coomes *et al* 2012).

How does this relate to climate change?

Carbon dioxide, a carbon-containing gas, is released by human activities, such as burning coal or natural gas, and natural processes like the decomposition of plant matter. Increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere are a major driver of climate change. Carbon sequestration is the act of pulling carbon back out of the air, reducing atmospheric carbon dioxide levels and effectively slowing climate change.

How do wildfires impact carbon storage?

When trees burn, a large amount of their stored carbon is released into the atmosphere. The more wood mass burns, the more carbon is released. High-intensity fires often release large amounts of carbon and leave the forest without any carbon sequestration capabilities for years. Mature trees that are dead or dying following the fire continue releasing carbon instead of taking it in, and new seedlings take years to put on enough biomass to sequester substantial amounts of carbon. After a high-intensity fire, it usually takes 8-12 years before a forest starts sequestering carbon again (Skowronski *et al* 2021).

Does fuels reduction release carbon too?

Forest fuels reduction activities such as prescribed fire and thinning decrease carbon sequestration through combustion and decomposition. However, by preventing high-intensity fire, fuels reduction has an overall positive impact on carbon sequestration.

Massive trees like this Trinity County ponderosa pine hold large reserves of stored carbon

Prescribed fires, which land managers set intentionally to achieve various objectives, generally consume much less wood than high-intensity wildfires and therefore release less carbon. Based on data from the California Air Resources Board in 2020, annual emissions from prescribed fire in the state of California are dramatically less than those from wildfires. In 2018, for example, wildfires released nearly 40 million metric tons (MMT) of CO_2, while prescribed fire released only 0.6 MMT. After prescribed fire, a forest usually only takes 2-3 years to begin sequestering carbon again. Therefore, a forest that is burned every 10 years is still storing carbon overall (Skowronski *et al* 2021).

Continued on Page 2 >

Forests, Fires, and Carbon: Burning Questions Answered cont.

Similarly, thinning reduces the amount of stored carbon by much less than high-intensity wildfire. In one study in ponderosa pine forest, stored carbon was reduced by 60% in high intensity fire and only by 14% from thinning and pile burning. Thinning can also increase the growth rate, and therefore carbon sequestration, of remaining trees in the forest (Dore *et al* 2010).

How do young and old forests sequester carbon differently?

In general, the overall rate of carbon storage declines with stand age, but there are many factors that determine the extent of carbon sequestration. A large old tree sequesters carbon more rapidly than a small young tree (Stephenson et al, 2014). However, an older forest generally contains fewer trees than a younger forest as there is less space, light, and resources for young trees to grow. Therefore, old forests contain a few large carbon stores in comparison to young forests with many small carbon stores. In a study of five dominant species in Pacific Northwest forests, trees greater than or equal to 21 inches in diameter accounted for only 3% of trees in the forest but stored 42% of above-ground carbon (Mildrexler et al 2020). Large trees are also more resilient, preventing large-scale carbon loss when subject to wildfire.

What does all this mean for forest management?

The dynamics of fire, forests, and carbon storage are complex and variable. However, the current science suggests that managing ecosystems to be resilient to wildfire is the most favorable for carbon sequestration, even with some carbon costs in the short term. In the end, a healthy and stable forest ecosystem is the most desirable one, both to slow climate change and to survive it.

A prescribed burn on the Weaverville Community Forest consumes mainly undergrowth, leaving the carbon stores of trees intact while reducing risk of a catastrophic wildfire.

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S. Dore, T. E. Kolb, M. Montes-Helu, S. E. Eckert, B. W. Sullivan, B. A. Hungate, J. P. Kaye, S. C. Hart, G. W. Koch and A. Finkral. "Carbon and water fluxes from ponderosa pine forests disturbed by wildfire and thinning." Ecological Applications, vol. 20, no. 3, April 2010, pp. 663-683.

D. J. Mildrexler, L. T. Berner, B. E. Law, R. A. Birdsey, and W. R. Moomaw. "Large trees dominate carbon storage in forests east of the Cascade Crest in the United States Pacific Northwest. Frontiers in Forests and Global Change, vol. 3, November 2020.

N. Skowronski, K. Clark, J. Miesel, L. Loudermilk, M. Midgley, and A. Coates. "Fueling Collaboration: Fire and the Carbon Cycle." Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers & Scientists. Webinar. December 15, 2021.

N. L. Stephenson, et al. "Rate of tree carbon accumulation increases continuously with tree size." Nature vol. 507, March 2014, pp. 90-93.

In This Issue

Sponsor a Camper

WEAVERVILLE SUMMER DAY CAMP

DONATIONS HELP MAKE CAMP POSSIBLE FOR TRINITY COUNTY YOUTH

What can your donation do?

Weaverville Summer Day Camp is a nature - based outdoor summer camp for children ages 6-12. With the help of your donations , campers have the opportunity to:

- Raft the Trinity River
- Explore the local forest
- Work in the garden
- Express their creativity
- Gain outdoor skills
- Work together
- Make friends
- Learn from local community and tribal members

$100 SENDS ONE KID TO CAMP FOR AN ENTIRE WEEK

Donate Today

Make checks payable to Trinity County RCD with "Summer Camp" in the description and send to:

Trinity County RCD
PO Box 1450
Weaverville CA 96093

For online payment: Scan this code with your phone or visit:
youngfamilyranch .org/daycamp .htm

SCAN ME

2022 Upper Trinity River Watershed Assessment & Management Plan

The TCRCD Watershed Department has begun to examine current natural resource concerns in the Upper Trinity River watershed and its subwatersheds with the goal of creating restoration recommendations to promote water security and wildfire resilience. The outcome will be a comprehensive Upper Trinity Restoration Assessment and Management Plan to help guide restoration in the coming years. This project is funded by the California Department of Conservation in an effort to develop headwaters restoration plans for all of the major central valley water storage and transport projects.

The Upper Trinity River Watershed, also known as the Trinity Lake area, functions as the headwaters to the Trinity River. This region covers the area within the County located north of the Lewiston Dam, including much of the Trinity Alps and Scott Mountains. The watershed has experienced negative environmental impacts as a result of fire suppression, drought, sedimentation, and legacy mining, leading to overstocked forests, inverted cobble stratification in streams, decreased water storage, impaired native riparian plant communities, and degraded habitat for fish and wildlife. These natural resource concerns will be addressed through the development of the Plan.

During a thorough review of previous evaluations conducted in the Upper Trinity River watershed by the US Forest Service and other organizations, the TCRCD compiled the recommendations from the analyses and identified the specific objectives of the Upper Trinity River Watershed Assessment and Management Plan. The overarching goals of the plan include accelerating watershed and climate resilience efforts, supporting forest health and carbon stores, advancing wildfire protection efforts, improving water quality in the tributaries, and enhancing habitat for wildlife and aquatic species.

Through field surveys starting inSpring 2022, TCRCD staff and partners will acquire essential information regarding the current conditions of the Upper Trinity River watershed and its subwatersheds. To identify water storage concerns in the area, TCRCD will conduct rapid stream and riparian buffer surveys to identify future project locations. Water quality and quantity measures include stream temperature and flow, presence of water contaminants, abundance and diversity of aquatic species, and riparian species composition.

Additionally, the Upper Trinity Watershed Assessment will evaluate fire risk and forest health through the forest stand assessments identifying diversity of tree species, percentage of vegetation cover in the understory, and the quantity of woody debris and fuel. Data obtained during field assessments will allow natural resource managers to understand current conditions of the watershed and prioritize restoration projects as necessary.

The Plan also aims to incorporate the community's natural resource concerns and priorities into the project implementation. In the coming months, TCRCD will be collaborating with the Watershed Research and Training Center to host community meetings to present more information about the Plan and ask for public feedback.

If you live in the North Lake Area and are interested in engaging with the Upper Trinity Restoration Assessment and Management Plan, please reach out to Nicole at neastman@tcrcd.net.

Nicole, TCRCD's GrizzlyCorps Fellow, at a flow monitoring site on Coffee Creek following the River Complex Fire of 2021

Updates from the Native Plant Nursery

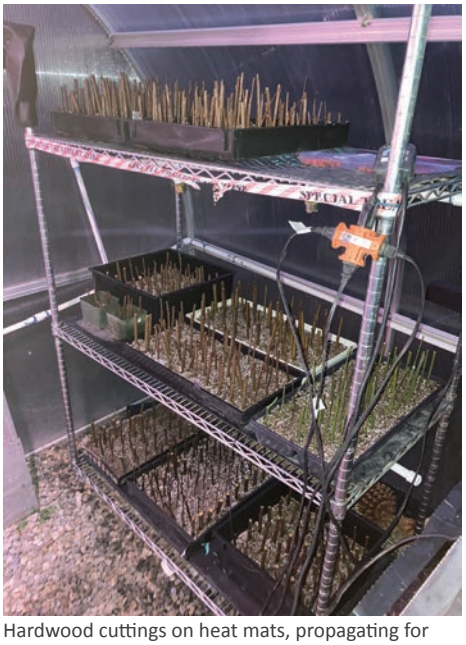
At the TCRCD Native Plant Nursery, native plants are propagated from locally-harvested seeds and cuttings to be used in restoration projects in the Trinity River Watershed. Plants from local seeds are more likely to be well adapted to the local ecosystem, and many have actually co-evolved to grow near each other. Seeds sourced locally outperform those from other seed zones and propagating these plants helps to maintain the genetic diversity of the region. Prioritizing genetic diversity in revegetation projects can ensure that populations of plants will be able to adapt to certain environmental factors such as freezing, drought, and disease. If a tree was harvested in Junction City, for example, it is much more likely to thrive anywhere in the Trinity River Watershed at that same elevation, than if it was grown in another region of California. When feasible, staff harvest seeds from within 10 miles of future restoration sites, and always try to get seed from as many different trees in the area as possible.

In the winter, the last task of the season is to procure hardwood cuttings for upcoming project sites. These carefully selected straight branches are sleeping quietly in the small greenhouse located at the Young Family Ranch. The cuttings range from riparian species such as mock orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) and creek dogwood (*Cornus sessilis*), to transitional riparian species such as California hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*) and Klamath plum (*Prunus subcordata*), to woodland species like Oregon boxwood (*Paxistima myrsinites*) and California rose (*Rosa californica*). Technicians follow Best Management Practices for restoration nurseries such as never allowing materials to touch the forest floor, sterilizing tools between donor specimens, and pre-sterilizing the entire greenhouse workspace including containers, shelving and even our shoes! This helps to prevent the spread of, and protect our nursery stock from, invasive species and disease outbreaks.

Conservation Technicians take native plant cuttings in the field to propagate at the nursery.

While the young nursery trees and shrubs were napping under a blanket of snow this December, our Revegetation staff were busy applying for new funding to build capacity of Trinity County's native plant propagation nursery. TCRCD was recently awarded nearly $33,000 for our Native Plant Nursery from the Trinity County USFS Rural Action Committee (RAC). The funds will be used to build new infrastructure, collect seeds, and complete propagation tasks in the nursery this coming year. Stay tuned for updates on our Native Plant Nursery in the coming months.

The TCRCD Native Plant Nursery is located at the Young Family Ranch in Weaverville



Hardwood cuttings on heat mats, propagating for future plantings

Free technical and financial assistance for conservation on your land

Molly Breitmün, TCRCD Conservation Planner, is partnering with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Weaverville Field Office team to help interested Trinity County residents apply for participation in NRCS programs. NRCS provides financial assistance programs to help people improve the health of their land while protecting natural resources, like soil, water, air, plants, and animals. Molly and the NRCS team provide free technical assistance and can help you with the application process for NRCS financial assistance programs you might be eligible for.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

EQIP is a cost-share program to help people pay for conservation practices on their land that address natural resource concerns. If selected for a contract, participants can implement or pay to have someone implement the practices. After completion, participants can receive from 50-75% in reimbursement for implementing the conservation practices agreed upon. Historically underserved customers can be reimbursed up to 90% for implementation.

Examples of projects included in EQIP (but not limited to):

- Post fire disaster assistance: cleanup of woody residue after salvage logging
- Soil stabilization
- Wildlife habitat enhancement
- Water conservation: irrigation, water storage
- Forest health/future fire resilience: thinning, planting trees

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

The Conservation Stewardship Program helps people maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance - the higher the performance, the higher the payment. Typically, CSP participants start as EQIP clients first.

To get started, fill out an interest form:
http://tcrcd.net/pdf/2022_Conservation_Interest_Form_Fillable.pdf

Email the completed form to Molly Breitmün at mbreitmun@tcrcd.net or mail to the NRCS Weaverville Field Office, PO Box 970 Weaverville, CA 96093.

CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Clean-up project in Hayfork

2019

Amelia Fleitz of TCRCD connected with landowner Christina Pierce and Hayfork Transition Board Members to develop a CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Clean-Up project. The goal was to remove years of waste and burned structures from the Hayfork property on Riverview Rd., adjacent to Hayfork Creek. The amount of waste dumped on the property annually was a concern to the health of the community and waterway.

2020

Plans for the Riverview property include a fruit orchard and community garden. The property was rezoned to meet the requirements for agricultural use. Christina and Hayfork Transition also worked to remove many abandoned vehicles and tires from the property.

2021

March

Garbage and waste removal officially began in 2021. A community volunteer day was held to consolidate the waste across the property into piles.

June

Bigfoot Hauling worked to remove the large materials, burned structures, ovens, and travel trailers from the property. In total, several appliances and 14,900 lbs of automobile scrap was recycled. Additionally, 4,555 lbs of household waste and 31,125 lbs of construction waste were removed from the property.

September

Fencing was erected surrounding the property by Christina, Hayfork Transition board members, local volunteers, Amelia, TCRCD Forest Health crews, and GrizzlyCorps fellows. The completed fence is approximately 2,500 feet long with two vehicle gates, donated by CalTrans, and five person gates.

October

Forest Health crews from TCRCD and The Watershed Research & Training Center chipped materials from the tress that were fallen. Chips were distributed across areas where structures previously stood and where there was disturbance to the hillside during fence installation. Additional chips were left piled onsite for future use in a native plant restoration project.

Work continues on the Riverview Community Beautification Project, with plans to begin native plant restoration in 2022. The clean-up phase of the project was funded by CalRecycle.

Trinity County GIS Data Download portal

The TCRCD manages, hosts and updates GIS data layers for County and private partners throughout the community, including the Planning Department, Department of Transportation, Trinity County Fire Safe Council, Watershed Research and Training Center, Department of Environmental Health and Assessor's office.

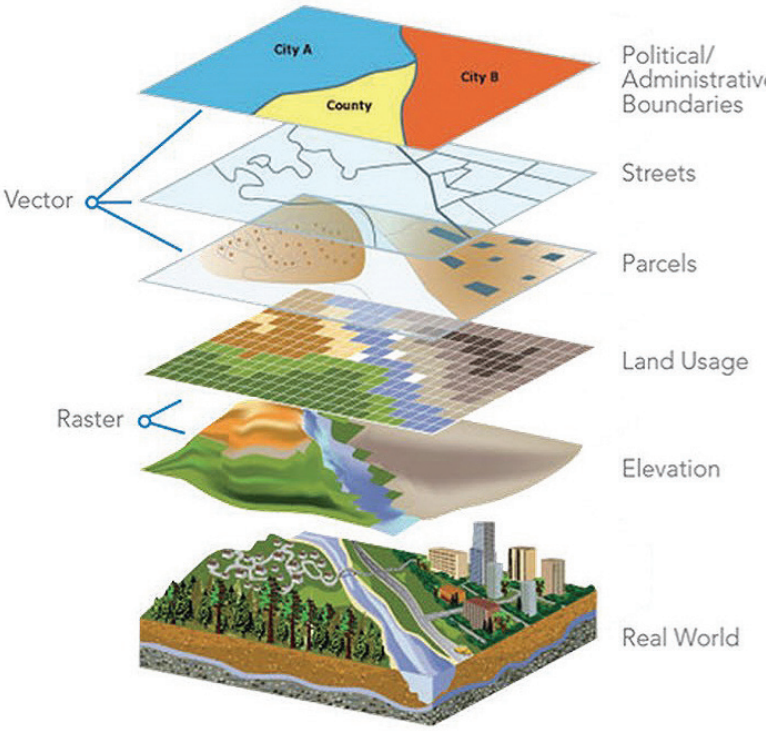
To assist with planning and data needs, the new Trinity County GIS Data Download portal went live in December 2021. Open data platforms increase transparency, while providing the most up to date, high quality GIS information in Trinity County for your planning needs. Twenty-one data layers are currently available free of charge for use by anyone to download.

Visit the download site here:

https://trinity-county-gis-data-portal-trinitycounty.hub.arcgis.com/

Looking for something else? At the TCRCD, we know the value of having up-to-date, accurate data for your project needs. Experienced GIS staff are available to assist you with your map making, production, cartographic layout, Story Map, ArcGIS applications and GIS analysis needs.

Please submit GIS inquiries to:
GIS Manager, gis@tcrcd.net

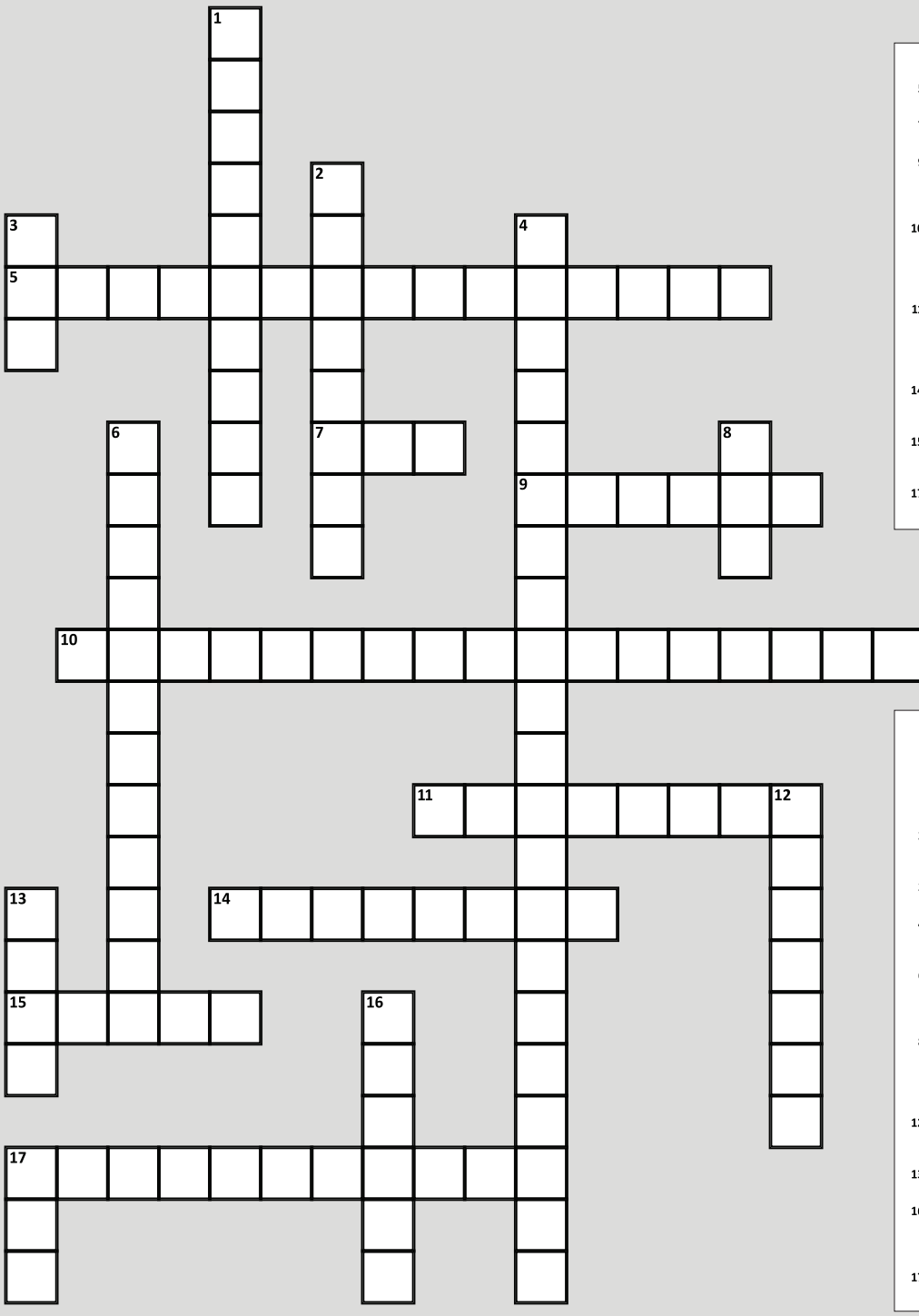


This data download model (above) Illustrates some of the layer types used and maintained in the TCRCD Geographic Information System library.

Accepting Applications for Natural Resources Scholarship

This year, two scholarships for $750 each are available to local students who are interested in natural resources or conservation! TCRCD offers scholarships to support high school seniors, graduates, and continuing education students who are pursuing higher education in a natural resource field. To apply for the 2021 scholarship or donate to the scholarship fund, please visit the TCRCD website at www.tcrcd.net and look under the "Projects" tab for the Scholarship Fund. Applications are due April 1, 2022

GIS in Trinity County



Across

5. The difference in elevation between adjacent contour lines
7. What is an abbreviated term for an Assessors Parcel Number?
9. A measure of the reflectivity of an object or surface; the ratio of the amount of radiation reflected by a body to the amount of energy striking it.
10. Which map application hosted on the Trinity County Resource Conservation District website shows both local trails, loops, elevation and points of interest for cycling enthusiasts?
11. What is the name of the type of interactive map found on the Trinity County Resource Conservation District web page that highlights Weaverville Community Forest Fuels and Recreation Projects?
14. A shortcut that saves the current map view, including extents, active layers, and styles for future use
15. How many ways can you search for a location using the "search function" in the Trinity County Parcel Viewer?
17. How many cities are displayed on the Trinity County Parcel viewer?

Down

1. On the Trinity County Resource Conservation landing page, which service is listed as the foundational component for programmatic support services provided by the Trinity County RCD?
2. What is the name of the council where you can find the CWPP Projects Web Mapping Application?
3. What is the abbreviation for Weaverville community Forest?
4. A measurement of a location on the earth's surface expressed in degrees of latitude and longitude
6. The Trinity County _____is a web application that allows a user to find basic planning and services information for parcels in Trinity County, CA
8. What is the name of the file extension format that the Weaver Basin Trail System Map can be downloaded as, from the Trinity County Resource Conservation District Website?
12. A collection of related geographic datasets, maps, layouts, tools, settings, and resources, saved in an .aprx file
13. What is the abbreviation for the Weaver Basin Trail System?
16. In which volume of the Trinity County Resource Conservation Almanac, was Citizen Science mentioned for Monarch & butterfly conservation?
17. File type used to package web map or elevation tiles

Answers

Down (in numerical order): GIS Program, Fire Safe, WCF, Geographic Coordinates, Parcel Viewer, PDF, Project, WBTS, XXVIII, TPK
Across (in numerical order): Contour Interval, APN, Albedo, Weaver Basin Trail System, Story Map, Bookmark, Three, Twenty-eight

FAQ: Tribal Nets

By Chad Abel, Trinity River Restoration Program staff

The Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) frequently receives questions concerning tribal nets. It might be because two of our eight program partners on the Trinity Management Council, the Yurok Tribe and Hoopa Valley Tribe, have federally reserved fishing rights on the Trinity and Klamath Rivers. Or maybe it's because TRRP is involved in the monitoring and data collection of outmigrating juveniles and returning adult salmon, so it's assumed we're involved in harvest management as well. We like to hear from the public and field their questions, but to set the record straight, TRRP does not have a role in setting bag limits, seasons, gear restrictions, or anything like that. But some of our partner agencies (including the tribes) do. To understand the contemporary framework of salmon management in the Klamath Basin, including the role of the tribes and the use of nets by their membership, it's helpful to first understand why many tribes on the west coast and elsewhere have "reserved" fishing rights.

Why do the Yurok and Hoopa Valley Tribes have rights to harvest salmon?

During the period of European colonization, Native American tribes exchanged vast tracts of land for monetary payment and minimal guarantees while reserving certain small parcels for their exclusive use. These smaller parcels are referred to as reservations today. The Hoopa Valley Reservation, for example, straddles the lower Trinity River to the confluence with the Klamath River, and the Yurok Reservation similarly borders each side of the lower Klamath River down to the ocean. Many of the tribes that signed treaties or agreements with the federal government expressly reserved the right to fish. People often mistakenly consider "tribal rights" as special rights that have been granted to tribal people by the U.S. Government. The fact is these rights, such as tribal fishing rights and the right to self-governance, are rights that tribes as sovereign nations had before European colonization. These "reserved rights" were retained when the tribes gave up their land by treaty or agreement. In other words, these agreements were not a grant of rights to the tribes but a grant of rights from them.

The harvest rights retained by the tribes were subsequently ignored almost immediately after the territories assumed statehood and began regulating their natural resources. The Lake Superior Ojibwe for example signed a series of treaties with the federal government from 1837 – 1854 that, just decades later, the State of Wisconsin refused to acknowledge, as evidenced by this 1896 report by the Board of Indian Commissioners:

> "The Red Cliff reservation, a third member of the La Pointe Agency group, is about 24 miles by rail from Ashland. It contains 191 Indians, a particularly industrious and deserving lot of people. A good many of the Red Cliff Indians obtain their chief employment at the Bayfield sawmills, and many others until recently earned a fair subsistence by fishing with nets in the bay along the border of the reservation. Their fish they would pack and ship in kegs to the market, working on a cooperative system. Now the State of Wisconsin has adopted laws which forbid their net fishery, although the Treaty of 1854 between the Tribe and the United States Government guarantees them this privilege. They cannot understand the conflict of State laws with Federal treaties, and still consider themselves entitled to fish, though they have made no attempt to assert their rights aggressively since some of the fishermen were arrested by the State authorities."

The west coast states similarly adopted rules forbidding tribal harvest by enforcing state fishing regulations, like rules forbidding net fishing, against tribal members. In many cases, states took the extraordinary step of arresting tribal members even when fishing on their own reservation lands, like in the Wisconsin example above. A series of conflicts and protests erupted across the country in the 1950s and 1960s as tribes and their membership challenged state control. The uprising ultimately prompted the federal courts to step in and settle the issue of tribal fishing rights. The result was a series of sweeping court decisions against the states and in support of tribal harvest rights.

> Instrumental court decisions for west coast tribes include the Boldt Decision (1974) against the State of Washington, US v. Oregon (1968) against the State of Oregon, and Mattz v. Arnett (1972) and the subsequent Arnett v. 5 Gill Nets (1975) against the State of California. The era of tribal rights reaffirmation in the Midwest was similar, with important court decisions like the Gurnoe Decision (1972) and Voigt Decision (1983) being decided against the State of Wisconsin.

However, it wasn't until 1993 with the Department of Interior solicitor's opinion M-36979 that the federal government formally recognized the fishing rights of the Hoopa Valley and Yurok Tribes.

What impact did these federal decisions have?

How the outcome of these court decisions plays out today varies at the regional level and, in some cases, on a state-by-state basis. Ojibwe bands in Wisconsin for example retain on and off reservation rights to hunt and fish. In contrast, the harvest rights of the Yurok Tribe and Hoopa Valley Tribe in California are restricted solely to the boundaries of their reservations. In some tribal fisheries, commercial harvest is allowable, while in other fisheries tribal harvest is for subsistence (home use) only. The unifying result is that today tribal nations play an important co-management role in fisheries management, are assured a proportion of the available harvest, and exercise the right to self-governance in regulating their harvest.

Who sets harvest limits?

The process of setting harvest limits (aka quotas) for salmon conservation falls to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC). The PFMC has nineteen council members from Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and California, including one voting seat reserved for a tribal representative. The PFMC determines the salmon quota that is used by tribal nations and the west coast states for the ocean and river fisheries. The tribes and states collectively participate on the PFMC, and the advisory committees to the PFMC, to set quotas that support tribal harvest and meet conservation objectives for the entire Pacific salmon fishery.

Does PFMC set regulations too?

No, the PFMC does not set the regulations that determine how the quotas they establish are fished. For the ocean fishery, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) manages commercial and sport fishing regulations.

At the state level, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) sets the regulations for the state salmon quota that determines when, where, and how a sport license holder can fish for salmon. CDFW and NOAA have procedures in place to monitor and report harvest to PFMC so quotas are not exceeded.

Tribes with harvest rights, like Yurok Tribe and Hoopa Valley Tribe, likewise have the authority through self-governance to impose fishing regulations on their members for conservation purposes. That is to say, the method of harvest is largely left to the tribe to decide and often involves a mix of traditional gear like weirs and nets with modern gear like fly rods and fishing tackle. Yurok Tribe and Hoopa Valley Tribe, like the State of California and NOAA, monitor and report harvest to PFMC so quotas are not exceeded.

The Supreme Court recognized the importance of salmon to Northwest Tribes when it concluded access to the fisheries was, "not much less necessary to the existence of the Indians than the air they breathed." The native people of the Klamath River Basin have depended on salmon for thousands of years. Next time you see a net in the river, it's important to remember the history of native people in the Klamath Basin, the prolonged struggle to retain their fishing rights, the longstanding tradition that net represents, and the modern role the tribes play in co-management of the fishery.

A tribal net laid accross the Trinity River

Trinity County RCD
P.O. Box 1450
Weaverville, CA 96093

Trinity County

Resource Conservation District

Your Local Conservation District
Established 1956

Trinity County RCD Board Meetings
Third Wednesday
5:30 PM
Open to the Public

Trinity County RCD Office
30 Horseshoe Lane
PO Box 1450
Weaverville, CA 96093

Telephone
(530) 623-6004
FAX 623-6006

E-mail: info@tcrcd.net
Internet: www.tcrcd.net

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 led by a volunteer board of directors.

The Trinity County RCD Vision

The Trinity County RCD 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.

Mission Statment

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

The Trinity County RCD of Directors are :
Greg Lowden, Heidi Carpenter-Harris, Josh Brown, Kent Collard, and Mike Rourke.

The Trinity County RCD is landowners assisting landowners with conservation work. The TCRCD can guide the private landowner in dealings with state and federal agencies. The TCRCD 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 CALFIRE, California Fire Safe Council, Trinity River Restoration Program, US Forest Service, and the Young Family Ranch Trust.

Printed with soy-based inks on 55% post-consumer content paper