



**North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP)
Policy Review Panel (PRP) & Technical Peer Review Committee (TPRC) Meeting
SUMMARY**

April 20, 2018

Location: Historic Yreka Elks Lodge, 332 W Miner St, Yreka

I Welcome, Introductions and Flag Salute

PRP Chair Supervisor Morris convened the meeting at 10:05 am and welcomed all attendees. She acknowledged a number of attendees and welcomed them including:

- Siskiyou County Supervisors Ray Haupt and Brandon Criss for hosting the NCRP in their county, noting that Supervisor Lisa L. Nixon was unable to make the meeting
- New Siskiyou County TPRC member - Rick Dean, Deputy Director of Environmental Health
- Former PRP Vice-Chair Grace Bennett
- Grant Davis, Sonoma County Water Agency
- DWR representatives:
 - Kaylee Vanni, California Department of Water Resources (DWR)
 - Patricia Vellines, DWR, Northern District
 - Xavier "Tito" Cervantes, DWR, Northern District
- Steve Wilson, Forester for CAL FIRE in Siskiyou

PRP Chair Supervisor Morris shared that Randy Poole - former SCWA General Manager who was instrumental in providing seed resources to start the NCRP - sent a message to say that he still follows the NCRP efforts and "to keep up the great work!! He is "very impressed by the long term effort at a high level of accomplishment for nearly 15 years by a really grassroots group that won't take NO!! for an answer. "

The following PRP members formed the quorum:

- Chair: Supervisor Judy Morris, Trinity County
- Vice-Chair: Leaf Hillman, Director of Natural Resources, Karuk Tribe, Northern District
- Executive Committee member: Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo, Southern District
- Alternate: Buzz Ward, Pit River Tribe, Northern District
- Supervisor Chris Howard, Del Norte County
- Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Humboldt County
- Supervisor Mike Wilson, Humboldt County
- Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County

- Supervisor Ray Haupt, Siskiyou County
- Supervisor Brandon Criss, Siskiyou County
- Alternate: Dale Roberts, TPRC member, Sonoma County
- Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo, Southern District

PRP Chair Supervisor Morris led the group in a flag salute.

PRP Chair Supervisor Morris introduced and thanked Vice- Chair Leaf Hillman of the Karuk Tribe for providing the Tribal Prayer and Welcome.

II Opening Tribal Prayer and Welcome

Vice- Chair Leaf Hillman, Karuk Tribe

III Review and Approve Agenda

Motion: Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo

Second: Supervisor Mike Wilson, Humboldt County

Unanimous

IV PUBLIC COMMENT for items not on the agenda

Vice- Chair Leaf Hillman requested that the Russian River Pilot be discussed and it was suggested that given the tight agenda, that this discussion occur in lieu of Agenda Item 5. There was general agreement.

Leaf described that he and the Tribal representatives have concerns regarding the Russian River Pilot’s commitment to reaching out to and involving Tribes in the Russian River watershed. He stated that the North Coast Tribes are working to develop a model for Tribal engagement with state programs and is concerned that the Russian River Pilot does not align well with this approach. He would like to request that staff work with the Executive Committee to develop a proposal promoting the NCRP as a collaborative model to be sent to DWR.

V Day(s) at the Capitol: Visits with Legislators and Agency Leads

See above

VI NORTH COAST RESILIENCY STRATEGIES: WATERSHEDS, COMMUNITIES & FIRE ROUND 2

NCRP PRP Chair, Trinity County Supervisor Judy Morris provided introductory remarks:

- This is our second round of presentations and discussions about watershed and community health, with a focus on multiple benefits that can be achieved for our region while making us more resilient to fire.
- After Ray and Mark provide their presentations, Karen will provide an update on what staff are proposing with all of the data and analysis that we have developed with funding from the SGC grant – much of it focused on watershed and community vitality.

FIRE RESILIENCY PRESENTATIONS:

Forest Management and Policy for Elimination of Catastrophic Wildfire

Siskiyou County Supervisor Ray Haupt

Trinity County Forest Ecology and Watershed Hydrology: Assessment to Improve Late Spring/Summer Stream Flows, Reduce Fire Intensity and Fire Related Carbon Emissions in the Trinity River Watershed

Mark Lancaster, Northwest California Resource Conservation & Development Council, Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program

Healthy Watersheds, Vital Communities, Thriving Economies: Actionable Strategies for California's North Coast Region

Karen Gaffney, West Coast Watershed

NCRP PRP Chair, Trinity County Supervisor Judy Morris initiated a "round robin" and following summarizes the roundtable discussion.

- Ray Haupt described that there is an important nexus between water and forest management. Some approaches for increasing water yield include thinning and transforming conifer forests into hardwood forests. He struggles with scale and the difficulty of maintaining western forests in regards to fire resiliency.
- It was described that western forests have really changed over the past decades. Forest biomass in its present state makes it really difficult to manage current fires in an attempt to get back to a normal fire frequency.
- Challenges include jurisdictional boundaries conflicts and management goals and priorities especially when fires move into wilderness areas.
- There is some promise in improving fire resiliency through mapping, modelling and planning to proactively develop a system of fire breaks in forest landscapes.
- Fire suppression in Trinity County cost approximately \$17 M in the last ten years, an amount that could have been used for planning and creating healthier forests.
- We are going to have to accept fire; we need to have the mindset that we are going to have fire and the only thing we can change is the severity of the fire with some forest modification. Prescribed fires have helped the Weaverville area prevent extreme fire situations of late.
- Natural resources are messy; once you get it sort of figured out, Mother Nature focuses on something else. Fire creates its own fire storm. You can plan and must always adapt.

VII Local Project Presentation: Improving Irrigation Delivery in Shasta Valley

Ayn Perry of the Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District provided a presentation about the Shasta River Drought Response and Irrigation Efficiency Project which helps landowners to control irrigation efficiency and address the concerns of the Shasta River TMDL by improving water conveyance infrastructure, replacing inaccurate flow measuring equipment, and providing water efficiency monitoring and advisory support to help landowners achieve. The presentation can be found at http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/9807

VIII Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 Implementation Funding Solicitation

Katherine Gledhill, West Coast Watershed provided an overview of the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1), approved by California voters on Nov. 4, 2014, authorizing \$7.545 billion in general obligation bonds to fund ecosystems and watershed protection and restoration, water supply infrastructure projects, including surface and groundwater storage, and drinking water protection. Proposition 1 authorized the appropriation of \$510 million in Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) funding for Implementation and

Planning efforts throughout the state. The North Coast funding area allocation is \$26.5 M (\$24.6 M after DWR's administrative cut) and has approximately \$22 M available for implementation projects.

The Proposition 1 IRWM Grant Program provides funding for projects that help meet the long term water needs of the state, including:

- Assisting water infrastructure systems adapt to climate change;
- Providing incentives throughout each watershed to collaborate in managing the region's water resources and setting regional priorities for water infrastructure; and
- Improving regional water self-reliance.

The staff presentation can be found at http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/9807

IX NCRP Proposition 1 Implementation Contract Admin Funding

Hank Seemann, Deputy Director, Public Works Department, Humboldt County provided background information about Humboldt County's role as the regional contract administrator. Since 2006, the County of Humboldt has managed 13 grant agreements with state funding agencies and approximately 100 sub-grantee agreements with local project sponsors, encompassing approximately \$69 million in grant funds. To date, 5% of each grant award has been allocated to the County of Humboldt for the costs of grant administration. In anticipation of administering the Proposition 1 implementation grants, the County looked back to evaluate the effectiveness of the 5% allocation. Actual costs for grant administration have varied from grant to grant based on a number of factors and there have been shortfalls in some of the funding.

For the upcoming round of Proposition 1 implementation project grant funding, the County of Humboldt requests that the NCRP Policy Review Panel authorize an allocation of up to 6% for grant administration. The actual proposed administration percentage (up to 6%) will be determined by the County after the projects are selected, but before the funding application is submitted to DWR, based on the total number of projects, the number of first-time subgrantees, an assessment of the administrative workload needed to satisfy the IRWM program requirements, and an updated estimate of projected costs.

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the allocation of up to 6% of the Proposition 1 Implementation funding to the County of Humboldt for grant administration to ensure associated cost recovery.

Motion: Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County

Second: Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo

Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

X NCRP Proposition 1 Round 1 Implementation Funding Solicitation Process, Project Review Guidelines and Project Application Materials

TPRC Co-Chair: Sandra Perez, Program Manager, Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program provided a presentation about the NCRP Proposition 1 Implementation Funding Solicitation Ad Hoc Committee efforts to develop NCRP Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 Implementation process, guidelines and solicitation materials which are subject to change based on new information and the Draft and Final PSP for the Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1

Implementation Project Grant regional application expected to be released by California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in June and August respectively. The presentation and draft documents can be found in the meeting materials at http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/9807 as:

- Attachment B - NCRP 2018 Project Review and Selection Process Guidelines
- Attachment C - NCRP 2018 Project Proposal Scoring Criteria
- Attachment D - NCRP Proposition 1, 2018 Project Application (example application)

She also presented the recommendation from the NCRP Proposition 1 Implementation Ad Hoc Committee including some items that the committee requested PRP review, consideration and direction. NCRP PRP Chair, Trinity County Supervisor Judy Morris suggested that each item be considered separately.

NCRP PROPOSITION 1 IMPLEMENTATION AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The NCRP Proposition 1 Implementation Funding Solicitation Ad Hoc Committee recommends approval of the Draft 2018 NCRP Project Review and Selection Process Guidelines, NCRP 2018 Project Proposal Scoring Criteria and the NCRP 2018 Project Application materials (see Attachments B, C & D) to allow for the commencement of the NCRP 2018 Project Solicitation and development of a regional NCRP 2018 Grant Application. The recommendation includes approval to allow changes to the NCRP Project Review and Selection Process Guidelines and NCRP 2018 Project Application materials to be made by staff with input from the NCRP Proposition 1 Implementation Funding Solicitation Ad Hoc Committee to comply with the Draft and Final PSPs to be released by DWR in the spring and summer of 2018.

Overarching Motion: Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County

Second: Supervisor Chris Howard, Del Norte County

Unanimous

1. Regional Application Budget Limit

Establish the budget limit for the Round 1 Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation grant to allow for the maximum funding amount provided in the Draft Round 1 Proposition 1 IRWM PSP up to 60% of the total amount available to the North Coast funding area for IRWM Implementation funding; allowing 40% to be held for Round 2.

Motion: Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County

Second: Supervisor Chris Howard, Del Norte County

Yes:

- Chair: Supervisor Judy Morris, Trinity County
- Vice-Chair: Leaf Hillman, Director of Natural Resources, Karuk Tribe, Northern District
- Alternate: Buzz Ward, Pit River Tribe, Northern District
- Supervisor Chris Howard, Del Norte County
- Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Humboldt County
- Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County
- Supervisor Ray Haupt, Siskiyou County
- Supervisor Brandon Criss, Siskiyou County
- Alternate: Dale Roberts, TPRC member, Sonoma County

Oppose:

- Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo, Southern District
- Supervisor Mike Wilson, Humboldt County

Motion Passed

2. PRP Final Project Approval and Regional Application Timing

Establish the preferred timing of the for PRP Final Priority Project Approval and Regional Application submittal:

- **January 18, 2018:** PRP consider/approve TPRC recommended suite of Priority North Coast Projects for NCRP Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 Implementation; **March/ April 2019:** regional application due to DWR for the NCRP Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 Implementation Project Grant. This option allows project proponents 5 months to prepare project applications for submittal to NCRP; 5 weeks for TPRC review (given the holidays).

Motion: Supervisor Mike Wilson, Humboldt County

Second: Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Humboldt County

Unanimous

3. Economically Disadvantaged Communities

The North Coast region is predominantly economically disadvantaged with nearly 90% of the region, geographically considered economically disadvantaged or economically distressed and nearly 60% severely economically disadvantaged.¹ The ad hoc committee was directed that the PRP project scoring guidelines should include screening criteria that will confer additional weight to projects that, in addition to meeting other NCRP criteria, will benefit North Coast disadvantaged communities and will provide additional weight for projects that benefit severely disadvantaged communities.

Motion: Supervisor Chris Howard, Del Norte County

Second: Supervisor Brandon Criss, Siskiyou County

Unanimous

4. Climate Change Adaptation

The PRP directed the ad hoc committee to provide additional weight for projects that assist water infrastructure systems adapt to climate change.

Motion: Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo, Southern District

Second: Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County

Unanimous

5. Program Preferences

The PRP directed the ad hoc committee to provide scoring criteria for projects that promote any or all the Program Preferences including Tribal additions for a total of 10 Program Preferences for a maximum amount of 7 points.

¹ *Economically Disadvantaged Community (DAC): A community with an annual median household income (MHI) that is less than 80% of the statewide annual median household income.*

Severely Economically Disadvantaged Community (SDAC): A community with an annual household income that is less than 60% of the statewide MHI.

Economically Distressed Area: A community with a population of 20,000 persons or less, a rural county, or a reasonably isolated and divisible segment of a larger area where the segment of the population is 20,000 persons or less, with an MHI that is less than 85 percent of the statewide median household income, and with one or more of the following conditions: (1) Financial hardship; (2) Unemployment rate at least 2 percent higher than the statewide average; (3) Low population density.

- To support Tribal self-determination and cultural resources
- Utilize Traditional Ecological Knowledge in coordination with Tribe(s)
- Ensure that there is a sustainability aspect to the project

Motion: Supervisor Mike Wilson, Humboldt County

Second: Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo, Southern District

Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

XI NCRP Plan & Storm Water Resource Plan Integration Process

Hank Seemann, Deputy Director, Public Works Department, Humboldt County described that the development of Storm Water Management Plans satisfies the requirements of Senate Bill 985 and State Water Board SWRP Guidelines to establish eligibility for local agencies and organizations to receive future State Storm Water Grant implementation funds. The purpose of a SWRP is to integrate storm water management with other basic aspects of aquatic resource protection and overall water management including flood control, water supply, and habitat conservation.

He presented the recommendation and described the proposed process to incorporate a SWRP into the NCRP Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan which is outlined below.

RECOMMENDATION: PRP approval of the NCRP Plan & Storm Water Resource Plan Integration Process which will be included in the updated NCRP Plan and in a new section of the NCRP Handbook titled NCRP Policies.

1. The SWRP plan will include a summary of the NCRP IRWM Plan under the Existing Plans section.²
2. The SWRP Plan, Implementation Strategy and Scheduling of Projects section will include a discussion on how the SWRP will be incorporated into the NCRP IRWM Plan per the following steps.
 - The Public Draft SWRP will be provided to the NCRP Technical Peer Review Committee (TPRC) for review to ensure alignment with the NCRP IRWMP Goals and Objectives and for technical comment. The comment period will be 21 calendar days.
 - The Public Draft SWRP will be presented to the NCRP Policy Review Panel (PRP) at a NCRP Quarterly Meeting for review and comment. If timing of the NCRP Quarterly Meetings does not align with the SWRP finalization, the SWRP may be submitted to the PRP via email for review and comment.
 - Any TPRC or PRP commentary will be considered and addressed prior to finalizing the SWRP with a “response to comments” memo.

² An example description: The North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan provides a centralized and collaborative framework for addressing local, regional, and statewide water resource priorities. The NCRP IRWM Plan emphasizes the creation of a sustainable environmental and socio-economic framework for the North Coast, by engaging in integrated planning for water infrastructure and natural resources. Planning and project focus areas include the recovery of salmonid populations, enhancement of the beneficial uses of water, support for energy independence, climate adaptation, local autonomy and intra-regional cooperation. The NCRP IRWM Plan focuses on areas of common interest and concern to North Coast stakeholders and on attracting funding to the North Coast Region, and recognizes unique local solutions in different parts of the Region. The NCRP is comprised of the seven North Coast counties and Tribes within the NCRWQCB watershed boundary. The NCRP IRWM Plan is supported by over 100 agencies, special districts, Tribal organizations, non-governmental organizations, watershed groups, and other stakeholders.

- At a NCRP Quarterly Meeting, a copy of the Final SWRP and “response to comments” memo will be presented to the NCRP PRP for the final decision vote. If timing of the NCRP Quarterly Meetings does not align with the SWRP finalization, the SWRP may be submitted to the PRP via email for consideration at the next NCRP Quarterly Meeting.³
- SWRP project proponents seeking funding that requires project inclusion into an IRWM Plan will follow the steps outlined in the On-Going Project Inclusion Process into the NCRP IRWM Plan found in the NCRP Project Review and Selection Process Guidelines (see Attachment B).

DECISION

Motion: Supervisor Chris Howard, Del Norte County

Second: Supervisor Mike Wilson, Humboldt County

Unanimous

XII Presentation: Draft Russian River Storm Water Resource Plan

Millicent Cowley-Crawford & Colleen Hunt, Russian River Watershed Association provided a presentation about the draft Russian River Storm Water Resource Plan. The presentation can be found at

http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/9807

XIII Presentation: Master Planning & Implementation Status: Yreka Creek Greenway

Jeannette Hook, Management Analyst, for the City of Yreka provided a presentation about the master planning and implementation work on the Yreka Creek Greenway. The project envisions a city-wide park as a continuous 5 mile natural pathway along Yreka and Greenhorn Creeks. The major purpose of the greenway is to store and absorb floodwaters and maintain streamside habitat for native fish, native plants, native wildlife, and people who enjoy nature. More information about the project and a walking tour map can be found at

<https://www.sgpga.org/programs/yreka-creek-greenway/>.

Jeannette recommended viewing the following news segment regarding the Yreka Creek Greenway project setting a nationwide example for flood concerns and reviving an urban creek ecosystem. <http://ktvl.com/news/local/yreka-setting-nationwide-example-for-alleviating-flood-concerns-reviving-creek-ecosystem>

XIV UPDATES

Due to time constraints the updates portion of the meeting was cancelled. Please see the meeting materials (at http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/9807) for written updates for the following

- Regional Administrator & Project Implementation Update
- NCRP Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Outreach & Involvement
- Executive Committee, PRP direction and staff action

XV PUBLIC COMMENT

none

³ The SWRP Guidelines note that for the purposes of receiving project funding, submittal of the SWRP to the IRWM group (for further incorporation into the existing IRWM plan) fulfils the requirement for “incorporation”.

XVI NCRP 2018 Meeting Dates

Following are the future NCRP meeting dates in 2018:

- July 27 – Eureka Area (changed date)
- October 19 – Weaverville Area

NCRP PRP Chair, Trinity County Supervisor Judy Morris will confer with the NCRP Executive Committee to determine whether either of these meetings should be cancelled in keeping with the NCRP Policy Review Panel protocol to hold standing quarterly meetings only when there are adequate agenda items and need for PRP input to warrant the meeting.

XVII ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 pm.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Policy Review Panel Members

Chair: Supervisor Judy Morris, Trinity County

Vice-Chair: Leaf Hillman, Director of Natural Resources, Karuk Tribe, Northern District

Alternate: Buzz Ward, Pit River Tribe, Northern District

Supervisor Chris Howard, Del Norte County

Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Humboldt County

Supervisor Mike Wilson, Humboldt County

Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County

Supervisor Ray Haupt, Siskiyou County

Supervisor Brandon Criss, Siskiyou County

Alternate: Dale Roberts, TPRC member, Sonoma County

Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo, Southern District

Technical Peer Review Committee Members

Co-Chair: Sandra Perez, Program Manager, Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program, Trinity County

Co-Chair: Dale Roberts, Engineer, Sonoma County Water Agency, Sonoma County

Javier Silva, Environmental Director, Sherwood Valley Rancheria, Central District

Hank Seemann, Deputy Director, Environmental Services, Public Works Department, Humboldt County

John Friedenbach, General Manager, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

Toz Soto, Senior Fisheries Biologist, Karuk Tribe, Northern District

Rick Dean, Deputy Director of Environmental Health, Siskiyou County

Wayne Haydon, Certified Engineering Geologist, Sonoma County

Nathan Rich, Kashia Band of Pomo, Southern District

Alternate: Emily Luscombe, Environmental Director, Coyote Valley Band of Pomo, Southern District

Wes Scribner, General Manager, Weaverville Community Services District, Trinity County

Alternate: Mark Lancaster, Director, Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program, Trinity County

Others

Ayn Perry of the Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District

Jeannette Hook, Management Analyst, for the City of Yreka

Adriane Garayalde, Russian River Confluence

Colleen Hunt, Russian River Watershed Association

Millicent Cowley-Crawford, Russian River Watershed Association

Xavier "Tito" Cervantes, California Department of Water Resources, Northern District

Kaylee Vanni, California Department of Water Resources

Grant Davis, Sonoma County Water Agency

Susan Haydon, Sonoma County Water Agency

Wayne Haydon, Sonoma County

Ann DuBay, Sonoma County Water Agency

Sherri Norris, California Indian Environmental Alliance

Cybelle Immitt, Humboldt County

Denise Monday, Humboldt County

Lauren Rowan, Humboldt County

Karen Gaffney, West Coast Watershed

Katherine Gledhill, West Coast Watershed