



**Delta Blood Bank Community Room
850 Sanguinetti Road, Sonora
4-6 pm**

MEETING SUMMARY

In Attendance

Patrick Koepele, Tuolumne River Trust
Patrick Stone, Native Plant Society
Aaron Davis, Merced Dirt Riders, AMA District 36
Jeremy Tankersley, Merced Dirt Riders, AMA District 36
Marian Chambers, Tuolumne County Agriculture
Galen Weston, Tuolumne River Trust
Charles Little, Sierra Forest Legacy
Mike Albrecht, Sierra Resource Management
Darca Morgan, Sierra Forest Legacy
Sonny Hendricks, Tuolumne Me-Wuk Council
Teri Murrison, Tuolumne County
Eric Wesselman, Tuolumne River Trust
Cynthia King, Tuolumne River Trust
Joyce Hunting, PMC
Nora De Cuir, PMC

Absent

John Buckley, Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center
Ben Cassinetto

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting began with an introduction and welcome by Eric Wesselman, Executive Director of the Tuolumne River Trust, followed by an introduction from each meeting participant. It was announced that Rebecca Cremeen will be taking over as project manager for the Tuolumne River Trust in mid-August. The meeting facilitator, Nora De Cuir, provided an overview of the meeting format, followed by a summary of past CREP accomplishments by CREP project managers Joyce Hunting and Cynthia King. The facilitator then provided an overview of the project schedule and answered general questions regarding the planning process. After a short break, the group reconvened to participate in the project selection exercise comprised of each Council member choosing ten high priority projects. The results of this exercise are shown below. Following the project selection exercise, the group participated in a facilitated brainstorm of Field Trip ideas (results shown below). Prior to wrapping up the Facilitator made announcements regarding upcoming public workshop tentatively scheduled for the third week of September, outreach and council meeting dates. The group scheduled the next Council meeting date for October 16, 2008 from 4-6pm. TRT staff then shared information regarding upcoming pilot projects. Council members made final comments (noted below) and the meeting was adjourned.



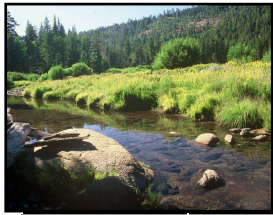
Priority Project Selection Results

<i>Desired Condition</i>	<i>Project No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Number of Council Votes</i>
1	WAT-4	Suitable Habitat	Conduct studies of the abundance, distribution, and population demography of amphibians using more intensive methods than Visual Encounter Surveys employed in the 2006 USDA Forest Service project studies.	3
1	WAT-6	All	Measure appropriate aquatic variables in pre-and post-project environments. Methods should include recording turbidigraphs and measuring RIVPACs (microinvertebrate diversity).	1
1	WAT-9	Lower Clavey	Conduct additional surveys to confirm the presence of hardhead (a native fish species) in the lower two miles of the Clavey River and in the Tuolumne River near the confluence of the Clavey.	3
2	WAT-10	Aspen Stands	Implement restoration activities in aspen stands, including reduction activities associated with conifer encroachment and reintroducing fire into the landscape.	2
2	WAT-11	Aspen Stands	Develop and implement specific management prescriptions for grazing allotments that contain aspen stands. Prescriptive measures may include increased fencing to reduce over-browsing. (Note: this is listed as a USFS Management Activity in the Watershed Assessment)	1
2	WAT-13	Bell, Bourland	Develop Research Natural Area (RNA) management plans for Bell and Critchfield. Options include: improve and repair fencing around Bell meadow to prevent cattle trespass, exclude grazing and holding use from lower Bell Meadow once a new holding pasture has developed.	3
2	WAT-15	Specific Sites	Channel, Soil, Vegetation and other Stream Restoration Treatments (see Table DC2-3).	1
2	WAT-16	Special Features	Continue assessments of special aquatic features (fens, bogs, marshes, seeps and springs), watershed-wide to improve knowledge of the current distribution and to provide a baseline for monitoring.	1



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2	WAT-17	Outside Wilderness	Undertake conifer encroachment reduction projects in areas supporting cottonwood stands.	1
2	WAT-18	Outside Wilderness	Undertake vegetation management activities in densely vegetated riparian corridors to decrease stand density. Decreasing stand density will create diversity and decrease fire and insect drought mortality potential.	1
5	WAT-20	Cottonwood, Hull, Bell, Lily	Investigate causes of elevated pool tail and bed fine sedimentation in Bell, Lily, Cottonwood, and Hull creeks. Implement corrective measures as appropriate related to management activities.	2
5	WAT-21	Specific Locations	Operate 3 stream gauges which would measure daily turbidity streamflow and water temperature. Information gained through the monitoring program should be used to identify sources of increased sedimentation and then management actions should be implemented to remediate the problem.	1
8	FIRE-1	All	Utilize Wildland Fire Use (natural ignition fire) and prescribed fire for resource benefits where appropriate.	1
8	FIRE-3	Outside Wilderness	Reduce surface fuel loading across large portions of the landscape.	4
8	FIRE-4	Wildland Urban Intermix Zone	Complete timely fuels treatment in the Threat Zone of the Wildland-Urban Intermix (WUI) zone mapped in the Hull Greek and Two-Mile Creek subwatersheds.	8
10	VEG-3	Outside Wilderness	In areas where Stand Density Index threshold values are currently exceeded, thin to reduce density favoring growth acceleration toward trees in the CWHR Size Class 5; favor retention of sugar pine, ponderosa pine, and hardwoods. Utilize opportunities to create vegetative mosaics and variable structure. Modify reduction of stand density for spotted-owl, goshawk, martin and fisher reflective of the habitat needs within their respective areas.	1
10	VEG-6	All	Using all available information and studies, develop a map of the existing and historic range of old growth habitat and connectivity.	1
11	VEG-8	Wet Meadow Springs	Develop and implement management strategies and project to protect the sundew population at Wet Meadow Springs.	1

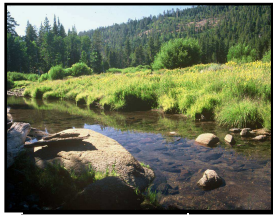


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12	VEG-10	All	Develop a Clavey Watershed-specific strategy--regulations, education, and enforcement--to keep all new infestations of noxious weeds and non-natives out. This strategy will be based upon the USDA Forest Service Guide to Noxious Weed Prevention Practices.	2
12	VEG-8	All	Develop and implement management strategies and projects to protect the sundew population at Wet Meadow Springs.	3
12	VEG-9	Specific Sites	Noxious weed eradication activities (refer to Table DC-12-3).	4
13	WIL-12	Suitable Habitat	Conduct studies to assess small mammal populations size and dynamics in meadows potentially used by great gray owls (in both grazed and non-grazed meadows).	3
13	WIL-3	Suitable Habitat	Improve habitat in all meadows suitable for great gray owl by creating nest snags where they presently do not exist, and subsequently monitor great gray owl occupancy and breeding in these meadows. Consider all meadows or groups (complexes) of meadows totaling greater than or equal to 10 acres in size for these habitat improvement projects. Criteria for determining the priorities will be based on past great gray owl observations at each site and the habitat suitability of each meadow for supporting breeding great gray owl.	2
13	WIL-4	Suitable Habitat	Develop monitoring program for mule deer, western gray squirrel, great gray owl, and riparian bird assemblages. Use monitoring data to identify perturbations in the ecosystem and implement remediation measures to address problems.	2
14	WIL-5	Suitable Habitat	When designing fuels and logging treatments, retain greater than 60% canopy cover in habitat classified as CWHR 5D.	1
14	WIL-7	Suitable Habitat	When designing fuels and logging treatments, retain larger sized trees with structural defects such as broken out tops and branches, "witches broom" or other unique structural conditions that may support fisher.	1
14	WIL-8	Suitable Habitat	Conduct surveys for bald eagle, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, bats, peregrine falcon, and great gray owl.	2
14	WIL-9	Suitable Habitat	Conduct presence/absence surveys for Sierra Nevada red fox, wolverine, and harlequin duck utilizing Forest Service monitoring protocols as appropriate.	1



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15	WIL-10	Suitable Habitat	Conduct a spatial assessment of habitat distribution (current and future to extent possible) and refine target population numbers for California spotted owl, northern goshawk, marten and fisher.	1
15	WIL-11	Suitable Habitat	Conduct periodic surveys according to appropriate protocols for marten/fisher, great gray owl, northern goshawk, California spotted owl, and willow flycatcher to monitor populations.	4
16	REC-1	All	Implement management strategies to improve all concentrated use areas (CUAs) with a Condition Class of 4 or 5. Identify the most appropriate management strategies for each site in order to move condition up to a class 3 or better.	2
16	REC-10a	Outside Wilderness	<p>Conduct condition surveys of all developed recreation sites at least every five years, to determine their number and condition and develop a regular maintenance and monitoring schedule. Surveys should establish a baseline condition for each site and include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location; • Condition Class; • Concentration/Siting; and • Distance from Waterbodies. <p>Based upon the surveys of all developed recreation sites, dispersed motorized recreation sites, and wilderness recreation sites in the Clavey River Watershed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and implement management actions to improve all developed recreation sites and dispersed motorized recreation sites in Condition Class 4 or 5. Annually monitor these sites to assure that conditions do not deteriorate. • Identify and implement rehabilitation and restoration projects at all non-motorized dispersed and wilderness sites with a Condition Class of 3, 4 or 5 to reduce resource damage and improve Condition Class. Rehabilitation and restoration activities include removing litter, benches, nails from trees, raking, spreading litter for soil cover, removing excess fire rings, downsizing fire rings, restoring erosion points to natural conditions, relocation, rest, decommissioning, and other 	4

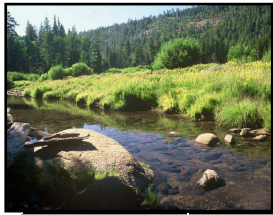


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			naturalizing techniques. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix culvert(s), rehabilitate creek, and reroute or rehabilitate 3N29 where it crosses NE end of Dodge Meadow. 	
16	REC-2	Specific Sites	Implement the following restoration and improvement projects: Trout Creek Barriers/Trail Restoration Project. Camp Clavey Barrier Project, Hull Creek Overflow Barrier/Trail Restoration Project	3
16	REC-6	Outside Wilderness	Expand a program of "Pack it in, Pack it out" education.	3
16	REC-7	All	Monitor impacts from recreational activities on adjacent private lands.	1
16	REC-9	All	Survey the condition of dispersed concentrated use areas (CUAs) including Hull Creek Overflow, Trout Creek, Camp Clavey, 3N26 at the Clavey, 3N29 Upper Clavey/Dodge Meadow, Thompson Meadow, Reynolds Creek, 3N01, and Reed Creek. Monitor sites that have been managed to improve Condition Class to assure that conditions do not deteriorate.	3
17	REC-15	Non-motorized	Enforce prohibitions against motorized use in non-motorized areas.	1
19	ROAD-1	Outside Wilderness	Based upon the analysis findings, consider changes to the road and trail system in order to improve habitat capability. Modifications could include road and trail relocation, decommissioning, and seasonal closures.	1
19	ROAD-2	Outside Wilderness	Based upon the Road System Inventory (ROAD-9) and the assessment of impact of roads and trails on sensitive ecological features (ROAD-10), develop a Road and Trail Management Plan, coordinate with the current OHV planning process, that identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needed and unneeded roads and trails; • Year-round access, seasonal closures, or permanent closures and /or decommissioning and/or relocation of all roads and trails; • Type of access for various road and trail user groups, including hikers, bicyclists, equestrians and all sizes of OHVs; 	3



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance objectives and frequency of maintenance for roads and trails that addresses the highest priority maintenance issues first; • Closure of non-system routes or incorporation into transportation system if they can be maintained and have a purpose; and • Schedule for Road Inventory and Management Plan Updates. 	
19	ROAD-3	Outside Wilderness	Regularly identify and implement improvements to all system roads not identified in good condition such that greater than 80% of all road miles are in good condition and the remainder are in fair condition.	1
19	ROAD-4	All	Regularly identify and implement trail condition improvement projects for all trails not identified in good condition such that greater than 80% of motorized and non-motorized trails outside of wilderness areas and greater than 90% of non-motorized trails in wilderness areas are in good condition with the remaining trails in at least fair condition.	1
19	ROAD-5	All	<p>Implement the following road and trail projects identified in the November 2006 USFS Roads and Trails Final Project Study Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road condition improvement projects for roads in poor condition and for those identified as impassible in USFS Roads and Trails Final Project Study Report--Table 3: Miles of System and Unauthorized Roads inventoried in 2006. • Motorized trail improvement projects for those motorized trails rated as "poor" and "fair" in the USFS Roads and Trails Final Project Study Report--Table 4: Motorized Trails Inventoried in the Clavey River Watershed. • Non-motorized trail improvement projects identified in the USFS Roads and Trails Final Project Study Report--Table 5: Non-motorized trails--Yellow condition inventory for the Clavey River Watershed. <p>Includes non-motorized trail segment numbers: 20E17, 20E16, 20E14, 19E95, 19E90, 19E75, 19E28, 19E27, 19E24, 19E21Y, 19E21, 19E14A, 19E14, 19E13, 19E12, 19E10, 19E09, 18E85.</p>	2



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19	ROAD-6	Outside Wilderness	Identify and implement road erosion improvement projects for those road segments included in the moderate, high and very high road erosion classes as indicated in the USFS Roads and Trails Final Project Study Report--Table 6: Road miles and road density by road erosion class.	1
19	ROAD-7	Specific Sites	Based upon the USFS Roads and Trails Final Project Study Report--Table 7: Number of HCS by Watershed Including Severity Rating and Length and Miles of HCS per Square Mile of Watershed, implement road improvements to raise conditions to low or non-hydrologic-connectivity on all hydrologically-connected road segments that were rated as having moderate, high and very high HCS severity to non-HCS.	3
19	ROAD-8	Specific Sites	Using existing railroad grade and connector trails, create non-motorized hiking, cycling, and equestrian trail from Tuolumne City to Cherry Lake.	2
19	ROAD-9	Outside Wilderness	<p>Complete the existing Watershed-wide Clavey River Road Condition Inventory (Road Inventory). This inventory should serve as the baseline for all future inventories. Both roads and trails should be inventoried. The inventory should identify road and trail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location; • Condition; • Hydrologic connectivity; • Surface materials; • Erosion potential; • Proximity to sensitive ecological features; • Existing signage and public information; • Overall assessment of the condition of each road; and <p>Maintenance needs including: inside ditched roads with surface erosion and failed cross drains, insufficient number of waterbars or rolling dips on some steeper sections of roads; numerous stream crossings with road surface erosion and plugged culverts, and; undersized or misaligned culverts that have a high risk of failure in moderately frequent storms.</p>	4



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20	SOC-1	Outside Wilderness	Identify and evaluate opportunities for the collection and sale of traditional and non-traditional forest products in order to increase revenue from forest products and provide resource benefits. Potential opportunities include biomass and small wood harvest. Evaluate the pros and cons of each opportunity as well as the economic and natural resource impacts of each. Work closely with the Forest Service to prepare a long-term Forest Products Marketing Strategy for those activities that appear feasible to pursue strategies to encourage the growth of industries related to innovative forest products. Annually document the revenue generated by the use and sale of traditional and non-traditional forest products and increase this revenue yearly.	4
20	SOC-4	All	Develop baseline data on the value of traditional and non-traditional forest products produced from the Clavey River Watershed.	1
21	SOC-11	All	Collect baseline data on the number of person days Forest Service Employees spend on the Clavey River Watershed annually. If the number of person days falls below 260, identify and implement measures to increase the number of person days spent by the USFS in the Watershed.	1
21	SOC-6a	All	Develop specific education programs and signage that emphasize: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unique qualities of the Clavey River Watershed. • Appropriate use of watershed resources. • Leave no trace ethics: "Tread Lightly," "Leave no Trace," "Pack it in, Pack it out". • Locations of non-motorized recreational experience. • Maps, signs, directional arrows, and mileage indicators providing educational information to the public as to why management changes are made (e.g. relocating, rehabilitating, etc.). • Visitor usage and behavior, including such topics as prevention of damage to heritage sites, proper locations for campsites away from streams and waterbodies, proper locations for campsites within 100 feet of a road. 	4
21	SOC-9	Office	Produce a coordinated set of education and interpretive materials to help visitors, as well as the local community, understand the Clavey River Watershed, including:	1



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General information about the natural and heritage resources in the Watershed and their ecological, economic, and cultural significance; • Potentially unpopular, misunderstood ecosystem management actions (e.g., road and campsite closures, prescribed fire etc.); • Locations of heritage resource destinations, including the historic Emigrant Trail; and • The value of natural and heritage sites and resources, the visitor's potential role in preventing damage, and the likely locations of these resources, rather than actual locations). Road and trail access data for visitor usage (hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, OHV users, etc.). 	
23	SOC-14	All	Working collaboratively with Native American community and the Forest Service, develop a Traditionally Used Plant Population Management Plan, which outlines the management of plant populations according to traditional methods, including selective harvest and prescribed fire.	2
23	SOC-15	Specific Sites	Stabilize Bourland Trestle.	1
23	SOC-16	All	Work with the Native American community to inventory and map in GIS the locations, health and viability of traditionally used plant populations and historic sites. Assure that these sites remain accessible to the Native American population.	1
ALL SOC	SOC-19	Office	Identify potential funding and in-kind contribution sources and partnership opportunities for implementing Clavey River Watershed projects. Potential funding sources and partners include federal, tribal, state and local agencies, and nonprofit organizations.	1



Field Trip Ideas

- Noxious Weeds
 - Reed Creek
- Thinning at Two-Mile Creek and other Fuels Treatments
- Forest Service Project at Two-Mile Creek
- Plantation Area Restoration
- Bell and Lily—or similar but not fenced
 - Bourland
- Area with Grazing
- Water Quality Issues
- Campgrounds
 - Hull and Trout
- Project-related—places where we can do something
- Meadows and watershed restoration areas
- Hydrologically connected roads
- Roads and wildlife—sensitive areas
- Good examples of successes
- Faust Cabin Meadow
- Dodge Meadow

Of those participants responding, nine expressed a preference for a weekday trip. Three prefer a weekend trip.

Other Council Comments on Plan Development

- Include “fundability” as a criterion



- Include two lists of projects in the plan, with differing priority
- Develop a goal statement for the Council
- Develop a “job description” for Council Chair
- Distribute project materials to entire Council for comment
- Consider costs and benefits of potential projects (to ecosystem, recreation, community, etc.) in plan development
- Work closely with Forest Service to ensure plan can be implemented
- Consider political support/feasibility in plan development

October 16 Council Meeting Agenda Items:

- Review group mission, goals, and decision-making process
- Review Scoping and Public Outreach Reports provided by PMC consultants
 - Select projects to include in Draft Administrative Watershed Plan
- Discuss Science Review Team members to recruit
- Select Watershed Council Chair
- Discuss potential demonstration projects
- Select January meeting date (tentative: January 15, 2009)