

Public Meeting for the Proposed Lower Steiner Flat and Upper Junction City Rehabilitation Sites 6:00 pm January 26, 2012 at Douglas City Flrehall

The Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP), including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (federal co-lead agencies), and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board - state lead agency), invite you to attend a meeting to learn about planned 2012 construction at the Lower Steiner Flat (LSF) and Upper Junction City (UJC) Channel Rehabilitation sites, and to provide your input. The meeting will begin at 6 pm on January 26, 2012 at the Douglas City fire hall, in Douglas City, CA. Project information will be presented and comments on the scope of project will be accepted.

The LSF site is located on the mainstem Trinity River three miles downstream from Douglas City and the UJC site is located in Upper Junction City upstream of where Dutch Creek Road crosses the river. Together the sites make up the Proposed Project which the TRRP plans to construct this year to increase salmon and steelhead habitat downstream of Lewiston Dam, as described in the December 19, 2000, Record of Decision for the Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Environmental Impact Statement. The Proposed Project is planned to enhance aquatic habitat quality and complexity via construction of slow water refuge habitats, reconnection of the floodplain with the river, and placement of in-river geomorphic and habitat features.

In 2009, the Regional Water Board acted as lead agency for a Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) and site specific Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Report (EA/EIR) (State Clearinghouse number 2008032110) for channel rehabilitation and sediment management activities for the remaining Phase 1 and Phase 2 sites in order to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Regional Water Board certified the environmental documents on August 25, 2009 (WDID No. 1A09062WNTR). Under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15177, after a Master EIR has been prepared and certified, subsequent projects which the lead agency determines as being within the scope of the Master EIR will be subject to only limited environmental review. The preparation of a new environmental document and new written findings will not be required if, based on a review of the initial study (IS) prepared for the subsequent project (e.g., the Lower Steiner Flat and Upper Junction City sites EA/IS), the lead agency determines, on the basis of written findings, that no additional significant environmental effect will result from the proposal, no new additional mitigation measures or alternatives may be required, and that the project is within the scope of the Master EIR.

An EA/IS for the "Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Sites: Lower Steiner Flat (River Mile 91.3 to 90.2) and Upper Junction City (River Mile 79.8 to 80.4)" which meets CEQA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, will be available in early February for a 30 day public review period. The Lower Steiner Flat and Upper Junction City EA/IS (and the MEIR), which explains and analyzes project environmental impacts, will be available on the TRRP website: www.trrp.net or may be reviewed at the Trinity County library at 211 Main Street in Weaverville or at the TRRP office at 1313 S Main Street (by Top's Grocery) in Weaverville.

The "Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Sites: Lower Steiner Flat (River Mile 91.3 to 90.2) and Upper Junction City (River Mile 79.8 to 80.4) EA/IS," will contain project specific information required to apply for enrollment under the General Permit R1-2010-0028 for Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation activities which the Regional Water Board will consider in making its determination and approval decision.

For further information or to receive a copy of the EA/IS, please contact Mr. Brandt Gutermuth, Bureau of Reclamation, at 623-1806. Comments may be sent to: Mr. Brandt Gutermuth, Trinity River Restoration Program, P.O. Box 1300, Weaverville, CA 96093, or e-mail <u>bgutermuth@mp.usbr.gov</u>.