

Trinity River Survey



Please return this survey by March 31, 2020.

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD), a solely grant-funded Special District of the state, is requesting input from Trinity County citizens and visitors to get your thoughts on the recreational use, restoration, and health of the Trinity River. We would greatly appreciate a few moments of your time to answer the following questions. Please note: personal information will be kept confidential. **There is space at the end of the survey for comments.**

Question 1: How much cumulative time do you spend in Trinity County in a typical year?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fewer than 2 months per year | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 months per year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-5 months per year | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 months per year |

Question 2: For how many years have you been living in or visiting Trinity County?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fewer than 3 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 21-40 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 years | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 40 years |

Question 3: If you rent/own property in Trinity County, is your property adjacent to one or more of the following waterways (check all that apply)?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trinity River (below Lewiston Dam) | <input type="checkbox"/> Weaver/West Weaver/East Weaver Creek |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trinity River (above Lewiston Dam) | <input type="checkbox"/> Canyon Creek |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rush Creek | <input type="checkbox"/> Connor Creek |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indian/Reading Creek | <input type="checkbox"/> No, not applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Browns/Little Browns Creek | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |

Question 4: Please select all of the activities that you regularly do in the Trinity River watershed (check all that apply).

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Trinity River | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Trinity or Lewiston lakes | <input type="checkbox"/> View wildlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kayak/raft/tube the river | <input type="checkbox"/> Paddle board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat Trinity or Lewiston lakes | <input type="checkbox"/> Prospect for gold |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swim – river and/or lakes | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hike | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |

Question 5: Please select your **3 most used river access locations** for recreation (see Figure 1, last page).

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lewiston Old Bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Evans Bar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rush Creek | <input type="checkbox"/> Sky Ranch Road |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Creek | <input type="checkbox"/> Junction City Campground |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steel Bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Bagdad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bucktail | <input type="checkbox"/> Pigeon Point |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Douglas City Campground | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use the Trinity River for recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lorenz Gulch | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |

Question 6: At the river access locations you most often use, are there permanent interpretive signs?

- Yes No I don't know
If yes, where? _____

If you answered no or I don't know you can skip to question 10

Question 7: The signs provide useful information about local fish and wildlife.

- Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree

Question 8: The signs provide useful information about local recreation opportunities.

- Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree

Question 9: The signs provide useful information about local history and changes in the Trinity River watershed.

- Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree

QUESTIONS 10-13: Please evaluate the following statements regarding historical impacts to the Trinity River.

Question 10: Historical, large-scale gold mining operations, such as hydraulic and dredge mining, still have devastating impacts on the form, function, and ecology of the Trinity River today.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree Do not know enough about this topic

Question 11: Historical logging practices and improper road construction near waterways still have negative impacts on the form, function, and ecology of the Trinity River today.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree Do not know enough about this topic

Question 12: Although constructed over 50 years ago, the operation of Trinity and Lewiston dams still impact the form, function, and ecology of the Trinity River today.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree Don't know enough about this topic

Question 13: Historical mining, logging/roads, and dams/water diversions degraded the river and continue to impact the river ecosystem in the following ways (mark all that apply):

Reduce the magnitude and frequency of large floods which were historically seen pre-dam

Cut the river off from nutrient rich floodplains that fish, animals, and plants need to thrive

Prevent gravel from moving downstream and reduce spawning gravel habitat available for salmon

Allow riparian vegetation to become established along the river margins and create confining berms

Mining, logging/roads, and/or dams have not impacted the river negatively

QUESTIONS 14-20: The following questions pertain to ongoing efforts by the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) to mitigate historical impacts to the watershed and balance the water demands of the Central Valley Project with the cultural, domestic, recreational, and ecological needs of the basin. TRRP's focus area includes the Trinity River between Lewiston Dam and the confluence of the North Fork and mainstem Trinity River (Helena). Please evaluate the following statements about restoration methods of the Trinity River.

Question 14: Have you observed any of the following restoration projects in the last 10 years (see Figure 2, last page)?

Sawmill in Lewiston (2009)

Lwr Junction City (2014)

Trinity House Gulch, Lowden Ranch, Reading Creek (2010)

Limekiln Gulch, Uppr Douglas City (2015)

Wheel Gulch (2011)

Bucktail (2016)

Lwr Steiner Flat, Uppr Junction City (2012)

Deep Gulch and Sheridan Creek (2017)

Lorenz Gulch, Douglas City (2013)

Chapman Ranch Phase A (2019)

Comments: _____

Questions 15 through 19 are restoration methods implemented on the Trinity River to enhance fish and wildlife populations. Using a scale from 1 to 5, how effective do you think each of these methods are (where 1 is most effective and 5 is least effective)? Please check only one number per question.

Question 15: Varying flow releases from Lewiston Dam to promote sediment movement, as well as riparian and wildlife habitat conditions.

1 2 3 4 5

Question 16: In-channel rehabilitation and river design to create habitat and promote self-maintained river processes.

1 2 3 4 5

Question 17: Addition of gravels and cobble for channel complexity and spawning habitat.

1 2 3 4 5

Question 18: Restoration of Trinity River tributaries to enhance habitat, reduce fine sediment, and improve fish passage.

1 2 3 4 5

Question 19: Addition of wood to create juvenile fish rearing habitat and refuge from predators.

1 2 3 4 5

Question 20: Each year, the amount of water to be released into the Trinity River changes based on winter precipitation and inflow into Trinity Lake (restoration flow releases). The U.S. Department of the Interior, and multiple agencies, *authorize* the flow releases based on *recommendations* developed by the TRRP for river and salmon health. Do you agree with the recommendations made by the TRRP?

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please explain:

Question 21: How important are these topics to you? (Rank against each other on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very important and 5 is less important; only use each number once)

- Overall river health and ecology
- Water quality and temperature
- Restoration flow releases (see questions 15 and 20 for clarification)
- Salmon populations and health
- Recreation opportunities

Question 22: How frequently do you engage with events or information related to the Trinity River or local environmental issues (approximately)?

Often (weekly) Sometimes (monthly) Seldom (less than monthly) Never

Additional comments about the health of and efforts to restore the Trinity River: _____

If you would like to stay informed about the Trinity River, please provide your contact information below.

Name:

Address and/or email:

Phone number:

Thank you for your time to help us better serve you. To return this survey, you can scan and email to info@tcrd.net; mail to TCRCD at P.O. Box 1450, Weaverville, CA 96093; or drop-off at the TCRCD office at 30 Horseshoe Lane in Weaverville.



Figure 1 (supplement to Question 5): Common river access points between Trinity Dam and Pigeon Point Campground (Map from the Bureau of Land Management).

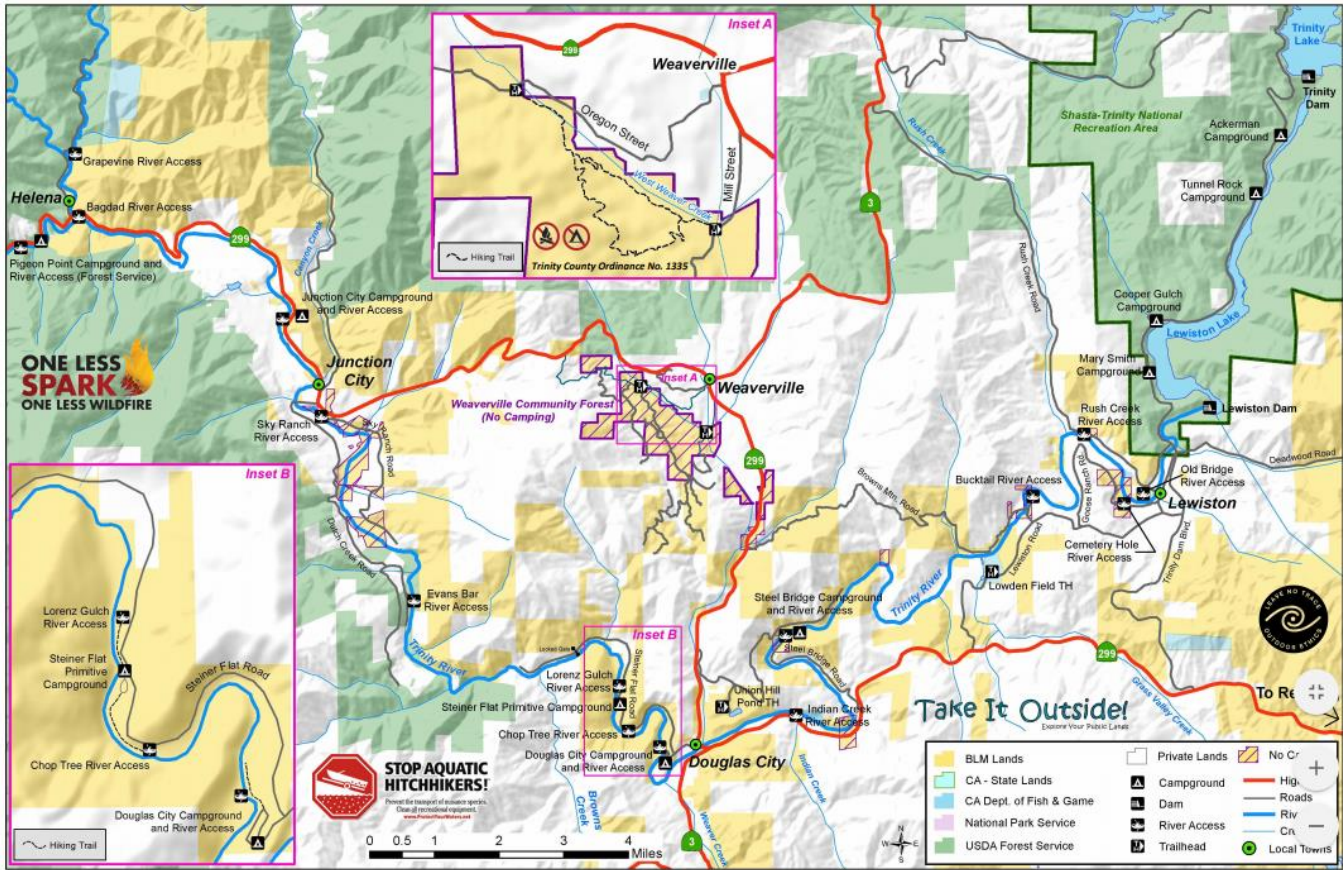


Figure 2 (supplement to Question 14): Trinity River Restoration Program rehabilitation sites (2009 – 2019).

