



Public Meeting for the Wheel Gulch Rehabilitation Site 6:00 pm February 15, 2011 in Junction City

The Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP), the Bureau of Reclamation (federal lead agency), the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board - state lead agency), and the Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD - state cooperating agency), invite you to attend a meeting to learn about the planned Wheel Gulch Rehabilitation Project and to provide your input. **The meeting will be held starting at 6 pm on February 15 at the North Fork Grange Hall, on Dutch Creek Road in Junction City. Project information will be presented and comments on the scope of project will be accepted.**

The Wheel Gulch Rehabilitation Project is located on the mainstem Trinity River approximately 3 miles downstream of Junction City. The project will work 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 Project is planned to enhance aquatic habitat quality and complexity via construction of slow water refuge habitats, placement of structures (e.g., large woody debris), and introduction of gravel into the river's floodplain.

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 Wheel Gulch 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 "Wheel Gulch Rehabilitation Site: Trinity River Mile 75.8 to 76.4," which meets CEQA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, will be available starting approximately February 11 for a 30 day public review period. The Wheel Gulch EA/IS (and the MEIR), which explains and analyzes environmental impacts of the project, 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 Wheel Gulch Rehabilitation Site EA/IS contains 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. Alex Cousins, TCRCD, at 623-6004, or Mr. Brandt Gutermuth, Bureau of Reclamation, at 623-1806. Comments may be sent to: Mr. Alex Cousins, Trinity County RCD, P.O. Box 1450, Weaverville, Ca 96093 or e-mail acousins@tcrd.net or Mr. Brandt Gutermuth, Trinity River Restoration Program, P.O. Box 1300, Weaverville, CA 96093, or e-mail bgutermuth@mp.usbr.gov.