



Matt Beard

Trinidad Bay Watershed Council

Meeting Notes, page 1

Monday, April 21, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Civic Club Room, Trinidad Town Hall

Present: Name & Affiliation

Danny O'Shea	Trinidad resident
Jonas Savage	Trinidad Rancheria
Rebecca Crow	GHD
Roland Johnson	Westhaven Resident
Sarah Sanders	Trinidad resident
Sungnome Madrone	Westhaven Resident
Tancy Moore	Trinidad Rancheria
Tyler Duncan	GHD
Becky Price-Hall	City of Trinidad Watershed Coordinator

Stormwater Construction Project: Rebecca and Tyler gave an update about the construction project and handed out the Advance Construction Notice and map of construction locations. They explained that the bids came in substantially above the engineer's estimate so the scope of the construction has been reduced to fit within the available funding. Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-May. The Trinity Street improvements will begin the week after the Fish Festival (June 15). They met with the Chamber of Commerce to present information and answer questions about the project.

Watershed & Partner Updates

Luffenholtz Creek Sediment Reduction Project: Rebecca reported that the project will recommence in May with decommissioning of the old main haul road and continuing replacement of culverts and treatments. The project will be completed at the end of the 2014 construction season.

Trinidad Water Treatment Plant Construction: Rebecca reported that the construction at the water plant is in progress, including installation of additional chlorine contact pipe and equipment. There is also a separate project replacing the water main to the Rancheria. The Rancheria and City are collaborating to fund various aspects of the project.

MPA Baseline Monitoring: Tancy Moore, the Rancheria Marine Planner reported that as part of the on the MPA Baseline Monitoring, she is working with the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Rachel Sundberg to document the tribe's Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK).

Drought Issues

Jonas reported that Jason will be making a presentation to the Rancheria community about what can be done in the home to conserve water. Sungnome and Becky reported that the Department of Conservation has offered an extension of the Watershed Coordinator grants to address drought issues.

Water Storage: The City has a 300,000 gallon storage capacity, which is several days' supply; the Casino has 100,000 gallons of storage as a buffer and to improve water supply reliability. Many homeowners are installing water storage tanks to address drought impacts to their water supplies.



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Monitoring precipitation: Danny gave a brief description about the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRaHS). It's an organization to support "volunteers working together to measure precipitation across the nation." Volunteers can register to collect and submit rainfall and weather data. Information about the program and data are available on their website:

<http://cocorahs.org/>. It would be interesting to have volunteers collecting at the harbor/beach, in town and at higher elevations so comparisons could be made about rainfall in different areas of the watersheds.

Council Projects & Activities

Trinidad Bay Report: Becky reported that the report committee has met a few times to organize existing material, including work done by Trever, and to develop additional material, especially figures, photos and other graphics. Discussion: There is a lot of information about Trinidad Bay, so it will be important to distill it down and present it graphically or develop brief descriptions. The brevity makes a separate references section important for anyone interested in more information. The committee will work on a rough draft for review at the July TBWC meeting.

Storm Drain Chalk Art Update: Sarah would like to have the first chalk art event on May 2nd. Becky will purchase materials

Fish Festival: It would be good to get a permanent tri-fold table display with TBWC information that can be used at a variety of events. There will be drought preparedness information about water conservation and storage in addition to information about watershed projects and improving water quality. Becky will circulate a sign-up sheet for volunteers and order a TBWC banner.

Additional discussion about the drought: Sungnome says the Trinidad Westhaven area is not water secure. We should avoid de-watering the creeks like in 1976-77. He said that the Mattole has a water storage and forbearance program with agreements to install tanks and stop water withdrawals from creeks during periods of low flow. The General Plan update should include incentives for water storage, grey water, etc... The water systems should eliminate leaks. We should look into grant funding for eliminating leaks, rainwater collection retrofits for community for gardening or other drought related projects such as improving groundwater recharge systems.

Next Meeting Dates: October 20, 2014. Future Agenda Items: Addressing drought impacts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Submitted by Becky Price-Hal