

Background Information to Support a Focused Conversation on Alternate Organization Approaches to SRRTTF

Background

At the January 2022 Task Force meeting, Rob Lindsay, Administrative Contracting Entity (ACE) president, requested a future discussion occur on alternate organization approaches to the existing Task Force and ACE structure in place. He gave two reasons that a different organization structure might work better: 1) It would provide an opportunity to develop a structure and approach that might encourage broader community participation (including tribes and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that are not participating on the Task Force) and 2) It would provide an opportunity to reduce the overall administrative burden that currently exists, primarily associated with ACE in its functions and meeting 501(c) 3 compliance requirements.

Rob also shared with the group that ten years ago the dischargers voluntarily agreed to an alternative process rather than a TMDL, but now a TMDL is going to be prepared, fundamentally changing the premise for the Task Force process. Discussion about alternative organization processes should also acknowledge that alternative organization structures that recognizes this effort to reduce PCBs is no longer a voluntary watershed process. Other Task Force members supported Rob's request.

Possible Organizational Alternatives

Two different organizational approaches have been identified by Task Force members, as alternatives to the SRRTTF and ACE structure. These approaches along with the general idea of need for and possible changes to the current organizational structure will be discussed at the February 23 Task Force meeting:

- 1) **Watershed Planning Organizational Approach** – Under this approach, Ecology would work with the greater Spokane community to establish a planning group that is comprised of existing SRRTTF members plus also invite the tribes and other NGOs not currently participating on the Task Force. Operating procedures and meeting rules would be developed and approved by the planning group, along with technical work plans. Ecology would then contract for services with a Lead Agency (to be identified) that would conduct work on behalf of the planning group, and consistent with the Ecology contract.
- 2) **Truckee River Basin Watershed Group** – Under this approach a Spokane River Basin Watershed Group would be formed to serve as a forum for sharing information on water related issues (starting with PCBs), based on the Truckee River Basin model. The group would work to speak together as a unified voice, work to unify diverse local interests and make consensus recommendations to Ecology (and EPA) and provide a learning forum that cultivates mutual understanding and information sharing. The group would organize from membership a Technical Response Team and Planning Team, along with ad hoc teams as necessary. More details on the Truckee model are provided in Attachment 1.

Truckee River Basin Water Group Charter

Purpose and Goals

The Truckee River Basin Water Group (TRBWG) was formed in 1996 as a local forum to represent the interests of Truckee River Basin stakeholders and local agencies, and to ensure that local citizens and stakeholders could be effectively engaged in the development of the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) and with subsequent TROA implementation. Now that TROA has been implemented, the continuation of the TRBWG as a community forum represents an opportunity to share information regarding water related issues within the Truckee River Basin, including TROA water management.

The TRBWG serves three primary purposes:

1. To the extent possible, be a unified voice speaking on behalf of Truckee River Basin related water issues.
2. To unify diverse local interests and make consensus recommendations to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for TROA-related water management concerns and to assist in their preparation of the California Guidelines.
3. To provide a learning forum that cultivates mutual understanding and information sharing among local stakeholders and affords opportunities to coordinate on water-related topics in the Truckee River Basin.

The goals of the TRBWG are to:

- Work collaboratively with other TRBWG members and California state interests throughout the Truckee River Basin to achieve natural resource management objectives while supporting the quality of life for the people who live and recreate in California's Truckee River Basin.
- Work toward a common understanding among TRBWG members about how the Lake Tahoe/Truckee River system operates and what tools are available through TROA to monitor operations and to achieve maximum benefits for California.
- Negotiate in good faith to achieve consensus on recommendations to DWR regarding preferred water resource management operations within California's Truckee River Basin.

Definitions

Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA)

Negotiated over more than two and a half decades, TROA was signed in September 2008 and implemented in December 2015. TROA aims to: 1) enhance conditions for threatened and endangered fishes (Lahontan cutthroat trout and cui-ui) in the Truckee River and its tributaries; 2) increase Municipal and Industrial (M&I) water supplies to provide drought protection for the Truckee Meadows (the Cities of Reno and Sparks, Nevada); 3) improve river water quality; 4)

enhance stream flows and recreational opportunities in the Truckee River Basin; 5) achieve implementation of the interstate allocation of Lake Tahoe Basin and Truckee River Basin surface and groundwater resources between Nevada and California.

California Truckee River Basin: The Truckee River basin includes the areas within California defined by the watershed boundary of the Truckee River and its tributaries, below the Lake Tahoe dam at Tahoe City. The basin includes portions of Placer, Sierra and Nevada Counties.

California Guidelines: TROA provides the State of California the opportunity to prepare California Guidelines for Truckee River and Reservoir Operations (Guidelines).

The purpose of the Guidelines is to provide education and guidance to the TROA Scheduling Parties regarding California's generally preferred streamflows and reservoir operations throughout the year. The Guidelines are based on local preferences, known resource requirements and anticipated hydrologic conditions for the current calendar year. The Guidelines are reviewed regularly and may be updated as needed and provided to the TROA Administrator and Scheduling Parties to share information, encourage their consideration and, to the extent possible, implement the recommendations in their water operations scheduling. To be most effective, the Guidelines will be reviewed and updated each spring, with the assistance of the TRBWG, when the current year's snowpack and anticipated watershed conditions for the remainder of the year are typically understood.

TRBWG Structure

The TRBWG is a forum for sharing information regarding watershed issues within the Truckee River Basin and is intended to be the primary venue for providing official consensus-based statements, recommendations and requests to local, state and federal agencies regarding water issues affecting local stakeholders and special interests in the Truckee River Basin. To be most efficient, the TRBWG will work to achieve its purpose and goals with assistance from a Technical Response Team (TRT) (See Appendix A), and a Planning Team (See below). Additional ad hoc teams may be formed as needed to represent special interests not already represented (See Appendix B). All teams work under the auspices of the TRBWG. Each provides input and/or recommendations on topics relevant to its charge for the TRBWG's consideration.

Roles and Responsibilities

TRBWG

The TRBWG will collaborate with DWR, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and other cooperating California state, local and federal agencies to discuss and develop consensus recommendations for activities that advance California's interests and the preferences and goals of the TRBWG membership.

As part of membership, **TRBWG members** agree to:

- Arrive at each meeting fully prepared to discuss the issues on the agenda. Preparation includes reviewing meeting summaries, technical information, and draft documents distributed in advance of each meeting.
- Represent their constituent members' views on the issues being discussed and be willing to engage in respectful, constructive dialogue with other members of the TRBWG.
- Develop a problem-solving approach in which they consider the interests and viewpoints of all group members, in addition to their own.
- Keep their constituencies informed about the deliberations and actively seek their constituents' input.
- Make every effort to consider all basin interests and make reservoir operations suggestions, requests and other watershed related recommendations through the TRBWG.

Chair

The Chairperson of the TRBWG is a member of the TRBWG that is selected or confirmed annually during the last TRBWG meeting of the calendar year. Since the chair is required to serve a facilitative role, the TRBWG will take care when nominating the Chair to ensure that the person serving in this capacity demonstrates a commitment to the goals and purpose of the TRBWG and is able to encourage participation and represent broad constituent interests while ensuring a fair, balanced, and credible process for TRBWG activities and deliberations. There is no term limit for the Chair. However, the position requires confirmation on an annual basis. The Chair responsibilities are to:

- Coordinate with the Planning Team as described below.
- Facilitate meetings.
- Identify and synthesize points of agreement and disagreement during the meeting proceedings.
- Assist in building understanding and consensus among members.
- Ensure compliance with all ground rules.
- Advocate for a fair, effective, and credible process, but remain impartial with respect to the outcome of the deliberations.

Convener

The Convener of the TRBWG is a member of the TRBWG that is selected or confirmed annually during the last TRBWG meeting of the calendar year. There is no term limit for the Convener. However, the position requires confirmation on an annual basis. The role of the Convener is to coordinate communications and provide administrative support for the TRBWG. Convener responsibilities are to:

- Initiate and lead Planning Team calls.
- Schedule and coordinate TRBWG meetings.
- Prepare meeting agendas based on Planning Team and TRBWG input.
- Distribute agenda and meeting materials to the TRBWG.

- Send reminder emails and other relevant communications to the TRBWG.
- Maintain the TRBWG and team email distribution lists.
- Maintain the roster for the TRBWG and teams.
- Maintain updates to meeting schedule.
- Record meeting notes at TRBWG meetings and prepare meeting summaries.
- Conduct other coordination functions as requested by the TRBWG using the TRBWG consensus-based process and procedures.
- Maintain a webpage containing general TRBWG information.

Planning Team

The Planning Team is comprised of the Chair, the Convener, and DWR and CDFW as technical advisory participants, if available. The Planning Team prepares the agenda and related meeting materials for TRBWG meetings. The Planning Team considers proposed agenda items and coordinates with the TRBWG to ensure that agenda topics are relevant to the purpose and goals of the TRBWG. The Planning Team participates in a standing call generally held two weeks prior to each TRBWG meeting to plan the agenda.

Technical Response Team (TRT)

The TRT is a balanced interest-based representative group comprised of individuals with technical/scientific training or the interest and motivation to focus on specific environmental or recreational aspects of the Truckee River Basin, which may include water resources management and TROA issues. The TRT meets quarterly, or as needed and provides the TRBWG with scientific and technical guidance, and proposes recommended updates to the Guidelines for the TRBWG's consideration. The TRT also addresses time sensitive scheduling issues and special reservoir operations announcements in consultation with DWR and CDFW and other sources, as necessary, and reports back to the TRBWG. The TRT operates under the direction of the TRBWG. The charge for the TRT is attached as Appendix A.

Technical Response Team (TRT) Representatives

TRT individuals are selected to represent their specific expertise or interest and will be recognized by DWR, CDFW and the TRBWG general membership as the spokesperson (representative) and main point of contact for their specific interest. TRT representatives will be expected to meet with their constituents or common interest groups to share information and to ensure that the views of the group are adequately represented on the TRT and shared with the TRBWG membership.

Ad Hoc Teams

The TRBWG may form ad hoc teams as needed or appropriate to advance its goals. Charges for TRBWG ad hoc teams are attached to this charter as appendices. For example, the charge for the Fish Team is attached as Appendix B.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

DWR is California's designated TROA representative and is responsible for preparing the California Guidelines in coordination with the CDFW, the TRBWG, and other California local, state and federal agencies. DWR routinely reviews current weather forecasts, the Daily Water Master Report and TROA Scheduling Plans to monitor performance of the Lake Tahoe and Truckee River Basin watershed and related reservoir operations. DWR attends monthly Scheduling Committee meetings with the TROA Parties and coordinates with the TROA Administrator to advance California's interests in Truckee River Basin reservoir operations. Based on the availability of funds and staff resources, DWR's role under TROA generally includes, but is not limited to, the following tasks:

- Represent California's interests and responsibilities for coordinating reservoir operations with the TROA Parties and the TROA Administrator;
- Prepare Scheduling Requests, generally based on the current California Guidelines, and submit to the TROA Parties monthly, or as needed;
- Attend TRBWG meetings (as needed and as available);
- Provide current and forecasted TROA operations information to the TRBWG, if requested;
- Offer information and non-binding technical assistance to the TRBWG regarding TROA related operations;
- Update the Guidelines annually, or as needed in consultation with CDFW, considering input provided by the TRBWG and other California state, local and federal Agencies;
- Notify or consult with the TRBWG on water management and reservoir operation actions and requests, as time permits;
- Explore opportunities to obtain and use Credit Water and consult with CDFW and the TRBWG on how to best maximize benefits from available Credit Water.

TROA Administrator and Federal Water Master

The office of the TROA Administrator is an independent entity that oversees operations of the Truckee River and Truckee River reservoirs. The Administrator is responsible for carrying out the terms and conditions of TROA. Primary responsibilities include: 1) classify Credit Waters; 2) prepare reports and maintain records covering water storage, release, exchange, and use; 3) schedule and coordinate operations; 4) ensure Credit Waters are used for their designated purposes; and 5) coordinate with the Federal Water Master to avoid conflicts with water rights under the Orr Ditch decree. Under administration by the federal Orr Ditch Court in Nevada, the positions of TROA Administrator and the Federal Water Master are currently filled by the same person.

In summary, the TROA Administrator is responsible for:

- **Scheduling:** In accordance with their water rights, Scheduling Parties formulate water storage and release schedules to suit their operational needs. The Administrator integrates the schedules into an operating plan for Truckee River reservoirs to satisfy the exercise of water rights and provide mandated minimum streamflows. The California Guidelines and Scheduling Requests are considered and incorporated whenever feasible.

- Accounting: The TROA Administrator oversees operations on a daily basis and maintains an integrated water accounting and schedule for past and projected future reservoir operations.

TROA Signatories

The 5 mandatory signatory parties to TROA are the United States, States of California and Nevada, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and Truckee Meadows Water Authority.

TROA Scheduling Parties and TROA Scheduling Committee Meetings

The Scheduling Parties recognized by TROA include the State of California (represented by DWR), the TROA Administrator / Water Master, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), The State of Nevada, The United States Bureau of Reclamation, the city of Fernley and the local governments of Reno/Sparks/Washoe County. TROA Scheduling Committee meetings, currently conducted monthly in Reno, Nevada, are the forum for the mandatory Signatories and Scheduling Parties to discuss current and future water operations and planning.

TRBWG Membership/Stakeholder Representation

The TRBWG consists of members representing local governments, environmental and fisheries organizations, water purveyors and utilities districts, recreational groups, private property owners and home owner associations, businesses, and the general public. TRBWG members typically live or recreate within the California Truckee River Basin or work in agencies/organizations whose service areas include all or part of the area or that conduct programs in the Basin. In addition to DWR, representatives from other California local, state and federal agencies may also participate.

Member agencies/organizations select their own individual representatives, including primary members and alternates. Member agencies/organizations may change their individual representatives. Changes in individual representation for agencies and organizations should generally coincide with the annual membership review process. In the event that a member agency/organization needs to change individual representation outside this time frame, the current representative will notify the Chair and Convener in writing of the need for change no less than two weeks prior to the next TRBWG meeting. Said member will also suggest a replacement from his or her interest group by this time.

To ensure continuity and broad participation at TRBWG meetings, members are allowed, but not required, to use alternates on an as-needed basis. Members of other teams operating under the TRBWG do not use alternates. Designated TRBWG alternates must be identified to the Convener and Chair, and then added to the TRBWG roster of members/alternates prior to participation in TRBWG meetings. Members are encouraged to designate alternates during the annual membership period, but may designate alternates outside this time period on an as needed basis.

Alternates serve the same role as members when members are absent, including serving as a proxy for members during decision making and voting. Only the member serves as a representative at a given meeting if both the member and the alternate are present. Members will keep alternates (and their constituents) informed of TRBWG activities on an ongoing basis. Due to everyone's limited and valuable time, no items addressed at previous meetings will be revisited to accommodate an alternate during TRBWG meetings.

Annual Membership Review

The TRBWG will review its membership to confirm that members wish to continue serving and to determine appropriate composition, revising the TRBWG membership roster as appropriate.

The TRBWG will determine whether new members are needed and will encourage member agencies/organizations to identify representatives that can regularly attend TRBWG meetings to represent the interest group. The TRBWG will consider the following criteria for determining new membership:

- Ensure balanced representation of all relevant interest groups;
- Minimize gaps in technical expertise or relevant experience;
- Maintain manageable group size and composition for effective and efficient meetings, and consensus-building deliberations.

Attendance

It is essential that members attend and actively participate in TRBWG meetings on a consistent basis to understand local watershed issues and the relevance to their own interests. The TRBWG will request during the annual membership review that non-active members reaffirm to the TRBWG their interest in participating as an active member. While in-person attendance is preferable, TRBWG members may have the option to attend by phone, depending upon availability where the meeting is held.

Adding TRBWG Members

Additional stakeholders may join the TRBWG membership with the concurrence of other TRBWG members using the TRBWG's consensus-based process (as described in this charter). If an interest group is already represented, interested stakeholders will be encouraged to participate by communicating with existing TRBWG members to convey their interests.

In the event that an individual or interest group requests to become a TRBWG member, the interested party will be invited to submit a brief letter to the Chair and Convener describing their interest and why that interest is not adequately represented on the TRBWG. The letter shall also affirm the individual or interest group's support for the purpose and goals of the TRBWG, and tenets of this charter.

The Chair and Convener will place consideration of the request on the agenda at the next appropriate TRBWG meeting. The TRBWG will consider the request and decide if the prospective new member addition is warranted. The TRBWG will review the request in the context of current TRBWG membership composition to ensure a fair review process and maintain the TRBWG as a balanced, effective, efficient and credible stakeholder collaborative. Evaluation criteria for a new member addition should consider whether the applicant adds needed interests/perspectives or other relevant representation not currently present on the TRBWG. Any addition of new TRBWG members will be noted verbally by the Chair at the meeting and memorialized in the meeting summary.

Meeting Schedule

The TRBWG maintains an annual meeting schedule of activities for the TRBWG and its teams. The annual schedule of meeting dates and activities will be determined at the last calendar meeting of each year for the following year and will be updated or adjusted on an as-needed basis. Periodically, the TRBWG may need to hold a special meeting or change a meeting date. The convener will distribute any scheduling updates to the TRBWG. In addition, due to the nature of some of the TRBWG interests such as reservoir operations, occasional impromptu TRT meetings or conference calls with all or a portion of the TRT membership may be required.

Communication

Media

Members are asked to speak only for their organization or themselves when asked by external parties, including the media, about the TRBWG's work, unless there has been a formal adoption of a statement, concepts, or recommendations by the TRBWG.

Stakeholders can express their own opinions to media representatives and will refer media representatives directly to other TRBWG members rather than attempting to speak on anyone's behalf. Participants should be careful to present only their own views and not those of other participants of the stakeholder group. The TRBWG will avoid discussing someone else's statements or positions.

Constituents

Members agree to share information and keep constituents, including organizational staff and members, boards and directors, and elected officials informed about the process and to bring constituent's views and relevant information to the TRBWG to foster open communication and to encourage discussion, when warranted. Members are strongly encouraged to provide or arrange presentations regarding their own special interest in the context of the TRBWG's broader emphasis wherever feasible to increase awareness.

Meeting Summaries

The Convener develops meeting summaries memorializing high level discussion points, agreements, minority opinions when consensus is not achieved, action items and next steps.

Following a TRBWG meeting, the Convener distributes the meeting summary in draft form to the TRBWG for review and comment after review by the Planning Team. The Convener incorporates into the meeting summary any and all comments received by TRBWG members and prepares a draft final version for final review and approval at the subsequent TRBWG meeting. The Convener then distributes the final, approved meeting summary to the TRBWG.

Public Outreach and External Communications

All TRBWG meetings are open to the public, and the public is welcome to participate in TRBWG conversations. The Chair may limit public comment to a designated public comment period if necessary to assure the TRBWG can complete its work in a timely fashion. Public comments will be memorialized in meeting summaries.

The TRBWG may oversee the development and implementation of a Public Engagement and Communications Plan that will guide activities related to public engagement and outreach and communications with external parties on an ongoing basis.

TRBWG Decision-Making

- 1) Consensus as the Fundamental Principle:** The TRBWG shall strive for consensus (agreement among all participants) in all of its deliberations. Working toward consensus is a fundamental principle.

In general, all committees will work towards consensus as a fundamental principle, particularly when crafting proposals or recommendations for TRBWG consideration. If committees are unable to reach consensus, the range of opinions provided, including areas of agreement and disagreement, will be documented in meeting summaries or otherwise communicated when committee efforts are shared with the TRBWG.

- 2) Definition of “Consensus”:** Consensus means that all group members either fully support or can live with the decision, recommendation, or overall plan and believe that their constituents can as well. In reaching consensus, some TRBWG members may strongly endorse a particular proposal while others may accept it as "workable." Others may be only able to “live with it.” Still others may choose to “stand aside” by verbally noting the reasons, yet allowing the group to reach a consensus without them. Any of these actions constitutes consensus.

- 3) Less than 100% Consensus Agreement:**

Less-than-consensus decision-making shall not be undertaken lightly. If the TRBWG cannot come to 100% agreement, the TRBWG could set aside the issue while it continues to work on other issues and revisit the disagreement later in the process. The TRBWG could also refer the matter to the TRT, if appropriate, or form a committee (with at least three interest groups) to develop a proposal for full group consideration. The committee would develop one or more proposals that attempt to address the interests of all the parties and present it to the TRBWG. The TRBWG would then do one of the following:

- Refine the proposal to reach consensus as defined above.
- Ask the committee to keep working and report back to the TRBWG at a subsequent meeting.
- If consensus cannot be achieved, the Convener will memorialize points of agreement and disagreement in meeting summaries.

4) Future Consideration of Voting Protocols

The TRBWG is a consensus-seeking forum that does not institute majority or super-majority voting protocols in its decision-making. However, the TRBWG may consider instituting such protocols in the future and, in such a case, would amend this charter accordingly.

5) Outcomes of Deliberations: All reports and products of the TRBWG will reflect the outcome of stakeholder discussions. All agreements and negotiated outcomes will be documented and, if applicable, may be officially proposed to DWR and CDFW to be incorporated into future California Guidelines.

Funding

This charter does not guarantee or obligate funding on behalf of any member entity. Each member entity agrees to work to the best of its ability to commit or obtain adequate resources for its staff to participate, and agrees to coordinate on efforts to secure funding, when necessary.

Each member entity agrees to work to the best of its ability to contribute in-kind support, such as meeting facilities, conference call services, website services, special studies, etc.

Working Together

The TRBWG will use the following agreements to establish a productive protocol for meetings and may modify them as appropriate.

Process Agreements

The TRBWG agrees to:

- Listen and openly discuss issues with others who hold diverse views.
- View disagreements as problems to be solved rather than battles to be won.
- Hold in balance their own interests and the interests of others when developing a proposal or solution.

- Identify proposals to resolve problems presented, and remain open to considering others' proposals.
- Refrain from ascribing motives or intentions to other participants.
- Respect the integrity, points of view, and values of other participants.
- Separate the person from the problem.
- Address the issues and concerns of the participants.
- Stand by agreements made with the TRBWG when speaking elsewhere.
- Negotiate in good faith*. All participants agree to participate in deliberations, to act in good faith in all aspects of this effort, and to communicate their interests in group meetings. Good faith also requires that parties not make commitments they do not intend to follow through.
- Stand by agreements reached unless new information emerges or conditions change that require the TRBWG to reconsider.

*Good faith negotiation is defined by: listening and sharing information, not personalizing disagreements; working to understand each other's concerns and interests; identifying objective criteria to use in decision-making; and working to develop inclusive solutions that meet one's own interests while simultaneously meeting or respecting those of the other parties. Good faith negotiation differentiates a consensus-seeking decision rule from an end-run to a majority or supermajority vote.

A role of the Chair, and participants of the Planning Team, the TRT, and other TRBWG teams, is to ensure these Process Agreements are followed at each meeting.

The TRBWG need not consider proposals that are contrary to the group's purpose as stated in its charter.

Members are encouraged to meet with their interest groups (caucus) to ensure that the representative members fully understand the perspectives of interest group members and to test proposals and ideas under development and before bringing them to the full TRBWG. Any TRBWG member may request to caucus before proceeding with decision-making procedures.

Amendments to this Charter

The TRBWG may use its decision-making procedure to adopt changes to this charter.

Appendix A: Technical Response Team (TRT)

Team Charge

Purpose and Goals

The primary purpose of the TRT is to provide the TRBWG with scientific and technical guidance, suggestions or preferences, and to propose recommended updates to the California Guidelines for the TRBWG's consideration. The TRT may also address time sensitive requests, including special reservoir operations opportunities in consultation with DWR and CDFW and other sources, as necessary, and reports back to the TRBWG. The TRT operates under the direction of the TRBWG.

The goals of the TRT are to identify and address science and technical needs and other local water related preferences that enhance the TRBWG's understanding about how the Lake Tahoe/Truckee River system operates and what tools are available through the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) to monitor operations and to optimize benefits for California. The TRT is a designated group of dedicated individuals, each representing a specific water related interest (or interests) in the Truckee River Basin. As the designated representative and spokesperson for a particular interest group, these individuals will be the first people contacted in the event of a necessary discussion relevant to their interest(s) and will be expected to communicate with their constituents and the TRBWG membership, as appropriate.

TRT Representatives

TRT individuals are selected to represent their specific expertise or interest and will be recognized by DWR, CDFW and the TRBWG general membership as the spokesperson (representative) and main point of contact for their specific interest at any given time. TRT representatives will be expected to meet with their constituents or common interest groups to share information and to ensure that the views of the group are adequately represented on the TRT and shared with the TRBWG membership.

The TRT is comprised of TRBWG members representing the diverse interests and interest groups of the TRBWG. To ensure balanced representation while maintaining a workable number of team members (not to exceed 10 members), the TRT's composition will include representatives from the following stakeholder groups:

- Local Government (city/county)- (up to 4 representatives)
- Local Water Agency/Utilities District (up to 2 representatives)
- Recreation (up to 2 representatives)
- Environmental (up to 2 representatives)

TRT representatives are approved by the TRBWG and confirmed annually. Interest groups are encouraged to participate through existing TRT representatives. If a TRT representative steps down, the TRBWG will select another representative from the same interest group to fill the

vacancy. DWR, CDFW, and other agencies, may participate in TRT meetings upon request and subject to their availability. In addition, DWR and CDFW may initiate impromptu meetings or conference calls with TRT representatives if required.

Attendance

It is essential for TRT representatives to be available and to actively participate in TRT meetings on a consistent basis and may also participate in impromptu conference calls when needed. TRT representatives who cannot attend a meeting are encouraged to provide their input before meetings to other TRT representatives verbally or via email. Those TRT representatives in attendance will move forward with TRT activities.

Meeting Structure and Schedule

The TRT sets an annual schedule at the last TRBWG meeting of the calendar year. TRT representatives may also hold conference calls to address time sensitive issues, as needed. DWR may send relevant notifications to the TRBWG Convener who forwards time sensitive notifications that require immediate deliberation to the TRT for consideration and other informational notifications to the broader TRBWG list. The TRBWG Convener coordinates communications and provides conference call services to the TRT. All other TRT roles and responsibilities, such as meeting facilitation and follow up activities, are assigned on a voluntary basis.

Proposal Recommendations

The TRT strives for consensus in reaching technical recommendations for the TRBWG's consideration. If unable to reach consensus, the range of opinions provided, including areas of agreement and disagreement will be communicated to the TRBWG for their consideration.

Appendix B: Fish Team

Team Charge

Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the “Fish Team” is to provide guidance to DWR on preferred flows to protect biological resources in the Truckee River and tributaries affected by TROA. The Fish Team provides input to DWR for inclusion in the California Guidelines and advises the TRBWG. Participation in the Fish Team does not limit any Fish Team member’s exercise of its independent statutory or other regulatory authority.

Fish Team Membership

The Fish Team currently consists of Truckee River Watershed Council, Trout Unlimited, CDFW, DWR, U.S. Forest Service (Tahoe National Forest), Tahoe Truckee Fly Fishers, and San Francisco Flycasting Club. The membership includes individuals and organizations that have knowledge of fish populations and aquatic resources in the Truckee River watershed. Membership is not “fixed.” Any group or individual that can provide a useful contribution is welcome to participate.

Meeting Structure and Schedule

The Fish Team meets approximately every other month or as needed. The Fish Team reports its activities to the TRBWG. The TRBWG Convener coordinates communications and provides conference call services to the Fish Team. All other Fish Team roles and responsibilities are assigned as necessary and on a voluntary basis.