

Valerie,

Please see a short update on the progress of Pine Creek restoration.

Update items that would be appreciated include:

Q: Projects and studies completed

A: Habitat Assessment at Confluence, Logan and Bogard Meadows; Confluence Meadow Restoration Design and EA; Logan Springs and Bogard Meadow Restoration Design; N. Eagle Lake, Champs Flat, & Lower Pine Creek Allotments Grazing Project; Trends Analysis and Meadows Scorecard

Q: Current benefits to stream bed to enhance spawning

A: No specific project has been planned to increase spawning habitat in Pine Creek.

Q: Current benefits to fish habitat when flow recedes

A: Benefits to fish habitat are not being monitored at this time.

Q: Any restored water flow to Pine Creek? Where? CFS?

A: Raised height of weir in Pine Creek on upstream side of HWY 44 to increase amount of flow in Pine Creek during low flow periods. We quantified the increase in CFS at ~5 cfs

Q: Has there has been a successful native spawn this season. If so, location on the creek.

A: Unknown – CDFW might have better information about this.

Q: Status of brook trout in upper Pine Creek

A: Brook trout still occupy Upper Pine Creek and there have not been any removal efforts since 2014. CDFW is currently working on a joint EIR/EIS with the Lassen NF to complete a chemical removal of Brook trout un Upper Pine Creek.

Q: Status of any required permits for projects

A: Permitting is in progress for railroad grades, decommissioned roads, and water hole relocation and fill associated with Pine Creek Watershed Restoration EA 2014; and Confluence Meadow EA in progress.

Q: Status of grant funding

A: Partners have applied to Wildlife Conservation Board and CDFW Prop 1 funding sources and have not had success in getting projects funded. A proposal was submitted to the Lassen County RAC, which was not awarded. TU is currently seeking funds from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Bring Back the Natives program to study fish movement in Pine and Creek.

Q: Has any filling of the super ditch begun? Where the fill material will come from and when this will begin if not already started.

A: The super ditch has no plans to be filled and no longer captures baseflow from Pine Creek.

Q: How many springs are currently being restored to Pine Creek?

A: There are no specific plans to restore springs, however work to restore meadow habitat will likely increase spring activity in the watershed and contribute to lower stream temperatures.

Q: Have any well/tanks for grazing above the valley been installed, planned or otherwise?

A: Can you please elaborate on the specific location being referenced?

Q: Has fencing begun to protect the stream bed?

A: There has been an observed improvement of riparian vegetation where fencing has been implemented at Logan Springs, a portion of upper Pine Creek, and Harvey Valley/Pine Creek locations.

Q: If there is a link to current regularly updated status website by all agencies involved in Pine Creek Restoration for public information from CRMP, TU project completions and status please provide that. Also, Tim please provide the last CRMP meeting minutes and we would love to provide that information to our members and website viewers.

A: Tim will provide meeting minutes.

Q: Ease of public access to this information and transparency in a timely manor is needed for public support. Not everyone who is concerned about these projects is capable of attending field trip meetings or meetings on short notice. Being disabled and mobility impaired (as we are) prevents us from completing the field trip meetings and excludes many other concerned people from the public information as well. We would be happy to link up to the public information website, if there is no website for these critical updates for Pine Creek, perhaps that is something that is needed. We will be happy to post anything provided verbatim. Please feel free to forward this request if it helps acquire written updates and updated documentation as it relates to Pine Creek Restoration for a successful return of a native spawn of Eagle Lake Rainbow Trout.

A: CRMP communication outside of meetings is accomplished via an email distribution list. Can you please include emails to Tim Keesey for those that would like to be included in Pine Creek CRMP communication?