

Weaverville Community Forest Master Stewardship Agreement Renewal



Douglas fir, incense cedar, and ponderosa pine trio in the Weaverville Community Forest

For over a decade, the District has been a steward of the Weaverville Community Forest (WCF) in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the United States Forest Service (USFS). In 2005, the District entered in to a ten-year partnership with BLM and this agreement was renewed in 2015. In 2008, the partnership expanded to include lands managed by USFS. This ten-year agreement was renewed in March of 2019.

The Weaverville Community Forest is 14,963 acres of federally managed land within the Weaverville basin. The community forest offers: aesthetic value, recreational and healthy living opportunities, firewood sales, community protection fuels reduction, timberlands, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat, and historic and prehistoric resources. The Weaverville Community Forest is home to the Trinity Children's Forest and Weaver Basin Trail System.

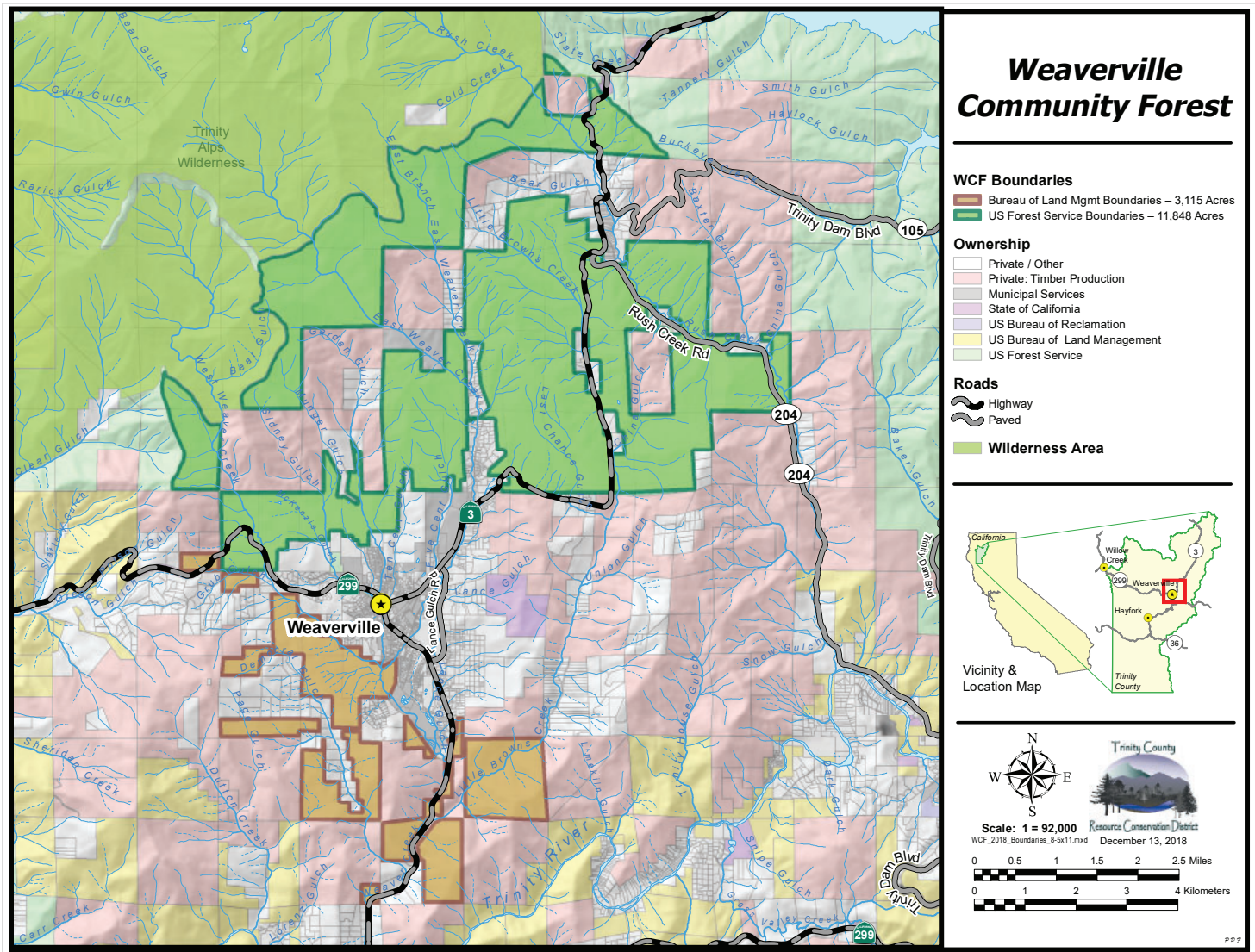
Maintaining forest health is a priority goal for the District, including improving fish and wildlife habitat, and ecosystem resiliency to a changing climate. Projects within the community forest include the West Weaver Creek Salmonid Habitat Rehabilitation, hazardous fuel reduction projects, community clean-up efforts, community trail work, and more. We are honored to work with our partners to oversee stewardship across this landscape.

To find out more about the Weaverville Community Forest contact the Trinity County Resource Conservation District at info@tcrd.net, or call (530) 623-6004

Visit the WCF website at: <http://tcrd.net/wcf/index.htm>



Weaverville Community Forest, cont.



Benefits of the Weaverville Community Forest:

- Land managed to reflect the community’s values
- Cooperation between multiple agencies to actively manage forest health and fire resiliency
- Implemented projects employ local residents
- Protect and manage watersheds for water quality and quantity and wildlife habitat
- Protect and manage of environmentally sensitive and historical areas
- Provides wildlife habitat continuity and aesthetic value
- Provides recreational and educational opportunities
- Provides regional tourist attraction
- Provides local firewood sources
- Supports development and maintenance of the Weaver Basin Trail System
- Timber assets stay in the county

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Natural Resources Scholarship Winner

Congratulations Savanna Kennedy, the winner of the 2019 Natural Resources Scholarship!

Savanna grew up in Trinity County and graduated from Trinity High School. Her hobbies include kayaking, rafting, hiking, camping, rock climbing, and caving.

Savanna was a student athlete, as she represented the Wolfpack for four years on the volleyball team, and two years with track and field. She was Sophomore and Junior Class President, and Associated Student Body Vice-President (ASB) during her Senior year. She was a member of Future Business Leaders of America for two years, and the Environmental Conservation Committee for two years in which she was elected the committee Vice-President her Senior year.

Currently a Sophomore at UC Berkeley, Savanna's focus is to earn a double major in Conservation and Resource Studies, and Spanish. She plans to study abroad in Spain or South America in 2020.

The District is proud to support you Savanna!



Welcome Amelia Fleitz



Join us in welcoming Amelia Fleitz as the new Watershed Coordinator at the District! Amelia grew up in Ohio and Connecticut and attended Miami University in Ohio to study Zoology, Geology and Environmental Science. While at Miami University, Amelia participated in research in limnology (specifically benthic invertebrates and zooplankton*) and tropical pollinators. She is currently finishing her Master's from Eastern Kentucky University in Biology with a focus in Applied Ecology. Amelia spent a year in Costa Rica studying reforestation techniques to increase pollinator visitation in the early stages of reforestation, as well as studying native pollinator distribution in the pre-montane coffee farms near Monte Verde. After Amelia finished her course work, she moved to Weaverville to work as a Fisheries Technician for the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. She is actively volunteering with the Trinity Youth Soccer Association and the Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department. In her free time she likes to hike, fish, travel, and spend time in her garden.

*Benthic invertebrates are aquatic insects and crustaceans that live on or in the lake sediments.

Zooplankton are crustaceans that live in the water column of lakes, oceans, seas and sometimes even rivers.

The Young Family Ranch

The Young Family Ranch is a beautiful community land trust property in Weaverville, and full of possibilities. The District is a proud steward and partner of the Ranch. So far this year we have held the annual Plant and Seed Exchange in April, brought back that "ol' time ranch feel" during Frontier Days in

May, and hosted the Weaverville Summer Day Camp in July. The Ranch has a lot to offer for the community. If you are interested in being a part of the Young Family Ranch contact the District at (530) 623-6004.



Enjoying a cobb oven quesadilla, and children's gardening



Cobb oven quesadillas with the Garden Gnomes from UC CalFresh



Hand-cranked ice cream by our local pioneers



Up-cycled garden tools



Garden gnomes infiltrating the event!



The Farm at Young Family Ranch for Weaverville Frontier Day

Weaverville Summer Day Camp

Every year, the District operates the Weaverville Summer Day Camp (WSDC) at the Young Family Ranch for three week-long sessions in July. Children ages 6 through 12 experience and learn about connection to nature, environmental conservation, agriculture, art, crafts, music, creating and eating healthy snacks, nature expeditions, making new

friends, team building, land stewardship, individual creativity, and so much more!

Thanks to the generous support of many partners the Weaverville Summer Day Camp was a huge success, and children will recall their camp memories for years to come. The District would like to extend deep gratitude to: Humboldt Area Foundation, Trinity Trust, the Young Family Ranch Board, US Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, University of California Cooperative Extension Nutrition Education Program and Master Gardener's Program, Shasta College Foundation, Trinity River Community Partners, Redding Rancheria, Circus Nature with A.O'Kay and Nani Nature, Mountain Chapel (Ropes Course), Six River's Rafting, and individual volunteers.



Soaring with The Wizards of Play (Circus Nature)



Save the Earth!



Campers went rafting with Six Rivers Rafting!



Busy Bees on Bug Day



Happy Birthday Ethan!



Learning boundaries and teamwork at The Course



Campers at Lake Eleanor with natural history instructor Pat Frost.



Huge ponderosa at Lake Eleanor

Trinity County is an Outdoor Classroom

Since the beginning of 2019, nearly 800 children and adults have participated in outdoor education through the District's Environmental Education programs. Events have included: the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), Earth Day celebration at the Young Family Ranch with Weaverville 5th-grade students, Wildflower Hike on the Trinity Lakeshore Trail, annual Day at the Wetlands with Weaverville 4th-grade students, Hoopa Fish Fair, STEAM Expo event at Weaverville Elementary School, the annual Trinity County Plant and Seed Exchange, and planting of native habitat for pollinators in Hayfork.

These efforts were supported by: Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District, Shasta College Foundation, The Watershed Center, Trinity River Restoration Program, US Forest Service, Weaverville Elementary School, Trinity River

Restoration Program, UC Cal Fresh Nutrition Education and Master Gardener Programs, and the Young Family Ranch.



Weaverville Elementary School's STEAM Expo



New and experienced birders join the GBBC



Making new connections at the Wildflower Hike in May 2019



Kids + Nature = Joy



Learning about mammals at the Day at the Wetlands



Gardening with Mr. Farmer for Earth Day

Road Projects

This summer, the District's road-related sediment reduction projects began with a road improvement project on Hocker Meadow Road, funded by the US Forest Service (USFS). The goal of this project is to improve road drainage issues along approximately five miles of roadway including rocked rolling dips, and rock surfacing of the road. The Hocker Meadow Road project also includes a large stream crossing repair on the 33N41A which will be implemented in late summer. The next project is in Hyampom for two road improvement projects funded by the Trinity River Restoration Program. One is a USFS and private road off Pelletreau Ridge Road, and the other is Gates Road which accesses the swinging bridge known as the Mule Bridge. Later in the summer the District will be decommissioning a few roads in the Gemmill Thin Project area near Wildwood. These roads were identified by the USFS and funded by the CA Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Commission.



Road rock surfacing



During



After

Roadside shaded fuel break near Red Hill and Lake Road in Junction City



CAL FIRE Engine crew conducting burn operations at the Timber Ridge shaded fuel break

Fuel Reduction Projects

In the spring of 2019 the District fuel reduction team completed hazardous fuel reduction and community chipping in Weaverville, Lewiston, Junction City and Big Bar.

Junction City Roadside Fuel Breaks

In the spring of 2019 the District fuel reduction crews constructed over 35-acres of roadside fuel breaks in Junction City. This work is ongoing and will continue through the summer. These projects are funded by the State Water Resources Control Board and CAL FIRE.

Timber Ridge Shaded Fuel Break

With the assistance of CAL FIRE and the Trinity River Conservation Camp crews, the District was able to complete the final step in the construction of a 30-acre shaded fuel break along the eastern and southern sides of the Timber Ridge community in Weaverville. The District fuel reduction crews prepped the site with manual treatments that consisted of roadside chipping, and piling brush into burn piles. Wet weather in May allowed for a late-season burn project that was conducted by CAL FIRE and the Conservation Camp crews. This project is funded by the CA Fire Safe Council.

Weaver Basin Trails

The District was at it again – giving the Weaver Basin Trail System the attention it needs. The District trail crew brushed, weed-wacked, and improved four miles along the McKenzie Gulch and East Weaver Creek trails, and installed concrete barriers at the East Weaver Campground to block vehicle access into unauthorized areas. They also improved a damaged kiosk at the lower Musser Hill trailhead on East Weaver Creek Road. The worked was funded by the US Forest Service.

Under California Active Transportation Program (ATP) funding, the District partnered with the Redding California Conservation Corps (CCC) for Weaver Basin Trail System maintenance projects in May. Other partners were the US Forest Service and Trinity Trail Alliance volunteers. Approximately seven miles of tread repair, water bar and culvert clearing, brushing, and log removals on Weaver Basin Trail System trails was completed. Priority work areas included portions of the LaGrange Classic Mountain Bike Race course and also the LaGrange Ditch and Weaver Basin Express equestrian endurance event courses.

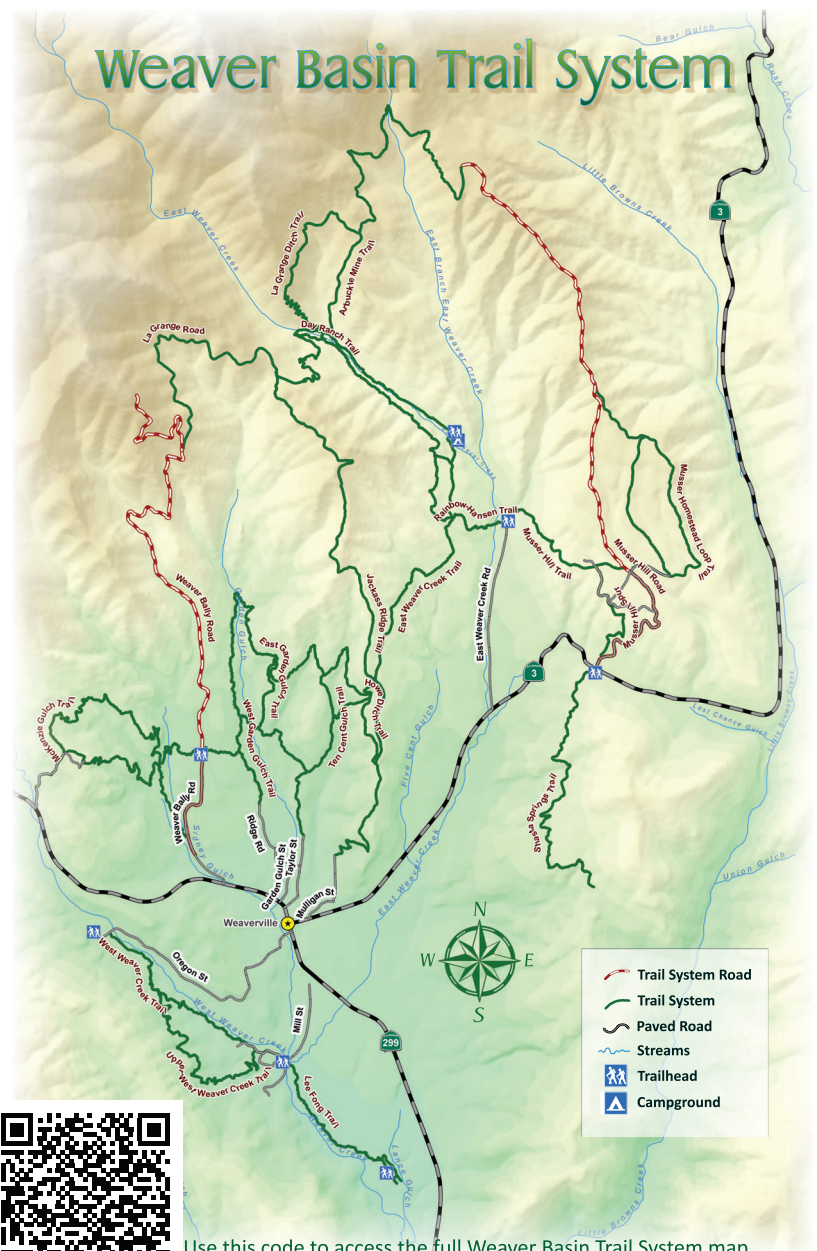
Trinity Bike Park

Additional CCC crew work was accomplished with ATP funding at the Trinity Bike Park at Lowden Park in Weaverville. In partnership with the District and Trinity Trail Alliance, 1,000 feet of gravel pathways and cedar split-rail fencing were installed– an essential step towards completing the Bike Park’s Phase I Construction. Riding the Bike Park’s pump track can help people of all ages improve their skills, enabling them to explore Weaver Basin Trails with more confidence and ability.

Find additional information about the Trinity Bike Park online:

www.trinitytrailalliance.com

Trinity Bike Park at Lowden Park in Weaverville - Concept Plan



Use this code to access the full Weaver Basin Trail System map or go to www.trcrd.net for more info.



Trinity River Tributaries Gap and Trend Analysis

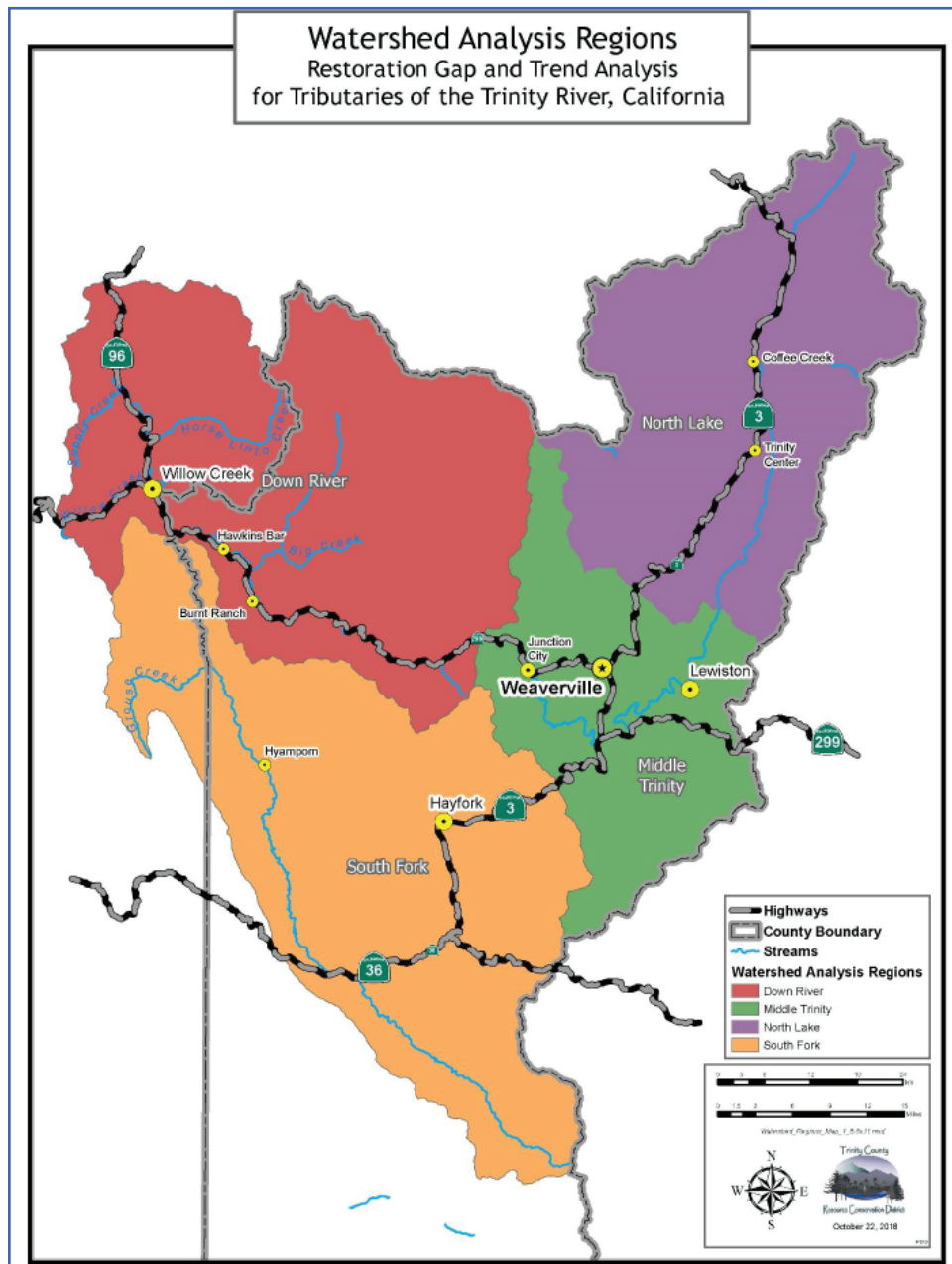
Have you ever wondered about the work being done in the Trinity River tributaries*, or which projects are suggested for restoration and protection? The District recently published the 2019 Trinity River Tributaries Gap and Trend Analysis, and it is available online at www.tcrd.net.

This project stemmed from decades of assessments and analyses performed on the Trinity River and its tributaries,

through different agencies, and for many different reasons. The goal of this analysis is to discover how past projects in each subwatershed* can be linked together with commonalities found in Geographic information system (GIS) datasets to map trends and inform future projects.

This was funded by the WaterSMART program through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

*Tributaries and Subwatersheds are similar and can be described simply as the water in, or land around, a watershed that drains to a larger water source or specific location.



Contributed by the Trinity River Restoration Program

New “RiverView” feature on the TRRP’s website

Are you ever searching for more information on the history or ecology of the Trinity River, and been at a loss for where to look? If so, the Trinity River Restoration Program’s website (www.trrp.net) is an excellent source of information about the Trinity River. On the site you can find real-time river and tributary flow data, an interactive watershed map, restoration project information, hundreds of reports and data packages, and dozens of aerial photographs. Most recently, a feature on the site’s DataPort

<http://www.trrp.net/dataport/riverview-launch/> allows you view the river in 360-degrees from any point between Lewiston Dam to Helena.

During the summer of 2018, approximately 1500 “photospheres” were taken along the Trinity River by raft. Photospheres are like panoramic images, but go all the way around, up, and down, so there is imagery in all directions. These photos were captured by a camera with two fish-eye lenses pointed in opposite directions. When viewed flatly these photos seem very distorted (Figure 1), but specialized viewers allow end-users to pan around to look in any direction.

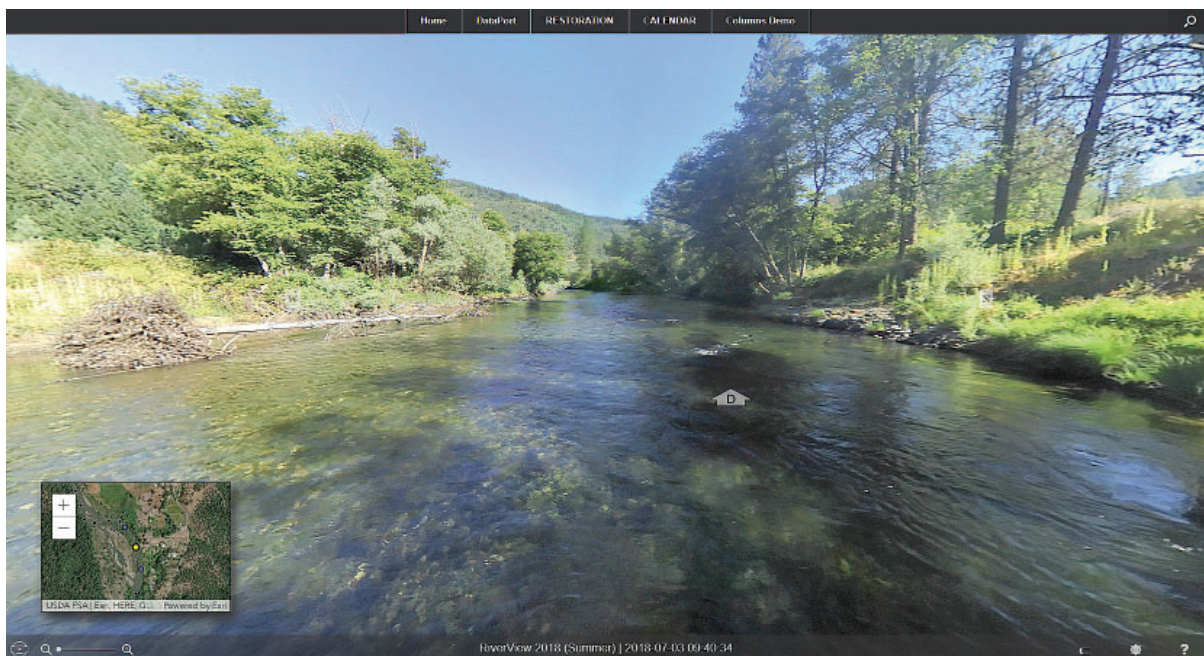
Figure 2. The same “photosphere” as in figure 1 above (looking downstream), shown in a specialized viewer. This viewer allows the photo to be rotated any direction and connects to the next photos downstream and upstream.



Figure 1. Flat view of a “photosphere” taken by raft from the Trinity River near Lorenz Gulch in Douglas City, July 2018.

Through the TRRP website the public will have access to these images through the DataPort (see link above) with a feature similar to Google’s “Street View”. People browsing the website will be able to move up and down the river to see conditions at a point-in-time from a rafting point-of-view (Figure 2).

The new site feature will allow anyone with an internet connection to virtually float the river – no matter where they may be. Since the images are roughly georeferenced, users on the site can select specific locations where they want to “virtually” enter and view the river. The 360-degree camera was paired with a customized global positioning system so that the images could be referenced to the ground location where they were photographed using geographic coordinates.



From the “launch site”, users can jump directly to common starting points for river trips, such as Douglas City Campground or Evans Bar public access. When starting at the Evans Bar public access point on the river, people can “virtually float” through one of the most heavily-mined sections of the Trinity. Although that may be hard to see while on the river because stream bank vegetation blocks the view of the terraces above the river where 75-foot mine tailings piles cover entire floodplains (Figure 3).

Channel Rehabilitation at the Chapman Ranch site

This summer, the TRRP has been working downstream from Evan’s Bar at the Chapman Ranch site, several miles upstream of the Dutch Creek Road bridge in Junction City. The goal of this project is to help recover natural river processes that will create and maintain salmon habitat.



The current conditions of the river channel may have transformed from the images you see on the Riverview screen, which were captured in 2018. Unlike the streets in Google “Street View”, natural rivers are dynamic and constantly changing. In places on the Trinity River, where the flows released from Lewiston Dam are not powerful or high enough to promote change, channel restoration projects are carried out to improve habitat conditions for salmon and steelhead.

The key designed objectives at the 2019 construction at Chapman Ranch Phase include:

- **Physical:** Reestablish a functioning, complex floodplain with various elevations, while promoting dynamic river processes that will increase in-channel habitat diversity at all flows
- **Biological:** Increase optimal habitat over a wide range of flows for juvenile salmon above existing conditions
- **Riparian:** Preserve and expand multi-story diverse riparian vegetation while also revegetating constructed areas and upland landforms

Once complete, this restored section of river will look quite different from the TRRP RiverView site with photos taken during the summer of 2018. Transformation is part of normal river function and it is through transformation that complex and diverse fish habitat is consistently refreshed. As you float down the river, whether physically or virtually, be on the look-out for other changes to the river channel that may have resulted from the high winter flows in February of 2019.

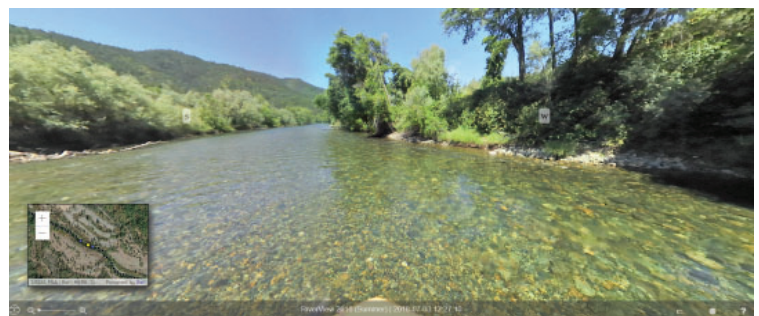


Figure 3. The aerial photograph on the left shows the Chapman Ranch restoration site in 2016, with large mine tailings piles on the upper right bank and lower left bank. The Riverview photo on the right shows the Chapman Ranch restoration site by raft in 2018 – the yellow dot indicates approximate location where 360-degree image was taken.

Trinity County RCD
P.O. Box 1450
Weaverville, CA 96093



Resource Conservation District

Your Local Conservation District

Established 1956

District Board Meetings

Third Wednesday
5:30 PM
Open to the Public

District Office

30 Horseshoe Lane
PO Box 1450
Weaverville, CA 96093

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E-mail: info@tcrd.net

Internet: www.tcrd.net

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (District) is a special district set up under state law to carry out conservation work and education. It is a not-for-profit, self-governing district whose board of directors volunteer their time.

The District Vision

The District envisions a balance between utilization and conservation of our natural resources. Through economic diversity and ecosystem management our communities will achieve and sustain a quality environment and healthy economy.

The District Mission

To assist in protecting, managing, conserving and restoring the natural resources of Trinity County through information, education, technical assistance and project implementation programs.

The District Board of Directors are :

Mike Rourke, Morgan Rourke, Patrick Truman, Colleen O'Sullivan, and Greg Lowden.

The District is landowners assisting landowners with conservation work. The RCD can guide the private landowner in dealings with state and federal agencies. The RCD provides information on the following topics:

- Forest Land Productivity
- Watershed Improvement
- Water Supply and Storage
- Educational Programs
- Erosion/Sediment Control
- Wildlife Habitat
- Soil and Plant Types
- Fuels Reduction

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