

ONE TRUCKEE RIVER
WINTER 2019 NEWSLETTER

One Truckee River works to ensure a healthy, thriving, sustainable river connected to the hearts and minds of its community.

WITH US SINCE THE BEGINNING

Once upon a time there was a Core Planning Group that turned into a Partnership Council. It wasn't a fairy godmother or a clock that struck midnight, it was progress. One Truckee River turns four this year, and our structure has come a long way. Our Partnership Council primarily consists of the founding stakeholders and funders who've been with us since the beginning, and who see the importance of our partnership.



On November 30, 2018, we held a Partnership Council retreat at the Reno-Sparks Tribal Health Center. Not only did we discuss progress being made, but what's being done now. Using our tried-and-true sticky note method, the council members shared accomplishments, constraints, opportunities and potential partnerships of the 100+ One Truckee River action items. We're excited to incorporate this successful analysis into One Truckee River moving forward. Below is a sample of accomplishments by OTR Partnership Council members:

- Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe: Conducted water quality monitoring at 5 sites along the lower Truckee River (monthly), 5 nonpoint source sites (monthly), and two continuous monitoring sites in Nixon and Wadsworth. The data allows us to assess the health of the river, determine whether water quality standards are being met, and identify potential problems/address problems through various water quality improvement projects.
- Washoe County Health District: Funded the purchase of a sharps disposal receptacle at the park near the Reno Aces stadium and the police station on 2nd street. Provided 500 1-quart sharps containers to RPD officers for sharps collection.
- Truckee River Flood Management Authority: TRFMA is working on designs for improvements at Vista Narrows, which is a key element of the Flood Project. The goal is to determine how best

to improve flood water convergence through this reach while enhancing the existing ecosystem (weed control and revegetation with native plants). 60% designs and environmental studies should be completed by spring 2019.

- Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful: Over 1,000 K-12 students received watershed education through Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful/One Truckee River. Held outdoor education at Idlewild Park, educational bike tours along the Truckee River, and collaborated with other educational organizations.
- The Nature Conservancy: Has a traditional use agreement in place with traditional (native) practitioners. Great collaboration and template for other agencies and land owners to follow.

To see the spreadsheet of accomplishments by One Truckee River Partnership Council members as they relate to the One Truckee River Management Plan, <u>click here</u>.

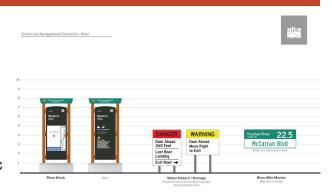
2019: MOVIN' ON UP

In 2018, the One Truckee River partnership focused on four action areas to ensure a healthy river connected to the Truckee Meadows community. For the new year, the OTR Partnership Council emphasized the importance of continuing with the 2018 priorities. The council feels these four priorities remain pertinent to foundational OTR success. The four focuses are listed below, along with notable progress points in each group.

1. SIGNAGE PLAN & RIVER SAFETY

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 2.2.b, 2.3.f, 3.1.b, 3.4.g, 3.5.b)

Group members continue to make progress in the creation of a Truckee River Master Signage Plan. Along with consultant Alta Planning +Design, the team has held multiple meetings, field trips, and discussions regarding the aesthetic of the signs, the safety information posted on each kiosk, and the overall flow of the plan.



The western edge of phase one was extended from Mayberry Park to Crystal Peak Park. This allows the most popular Reno-area drop-in tube spot to be included in the first phase. Ultimately, the signage plan will extend along the entire Truckee River. For phase one, Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County staff are all participating, including parks and fire rescue staff. The master signage plan is expected to be completed early 2019. Above is a sample of the Preferred Alternative identified for the signage plan. All information is preliminary and subject to change.

2. FUNDING, METRICS FOR SUCCESS & STRUCTURE

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 4.1.a, 4.1.d, 4.1.e)

At the end of 2018, the Funding, Metrics for Success, and Structure group reviewed responses from a Partnership Council survey to help guide the development of a new organizational structure for the One Truckee River Partnership as a whole for 2019. This proposed organization will be presented in the first quarter of 2019 to the Partnership Council. The group is exploring a specialized outside consultant to create metrics for OTR, to guide action item success and communication. Regarding the Truckee River linear park idea, exploration and collaboration is ongoing.



3. HOUSING & SANITATION

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 1.3.c, 2.1.e)

In the OTR Management Plan, one action item reads as follows: 1.3.c Ensure adequate public restrooms along the Truckee River. Initiate a pilot study of temporary restroom facilities in priority areas along the river corridor. Identify key locations along the river with high user activity and implement a pilot program with addition of public restrooms.

At this time, OTR's Partnership Coordinator is leading the exploration of potential avenues to install and maintain a Portland Loo, the identified public restroom option.



UPCOMING RIVER EVENTS

- Science Distilled: In the Line of Fire: 1/23, 7-9:30pm
- 2019 Homeless Youth Point in Time Count: 1/24, all day
- Happy Hour Q&A with Travis Hawks, NDOW: 1/24,
 6-8pm
- Outdoor Skills & Ethics Workshop: 1/29, 1-4:30pm
- <u>Cabin Fever, Winter Series</u>: Every Monday until Feb. 11, 10-11am (\$5 donation per session)

4. STORM WATER, VEGETATION MANAGEMENT, & WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 1.2.a, 1.3.d)

On October 1, 2018, One Truckee River received a new grant award from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) to continue work on the Truckee River Coordinated Watershed Management Plan with contractor Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI). this funding will cover work from February 2019 to June 2020. This funding is in addition to NDEP funds received in 2017.

The Truckee Meadows Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee, comprised of representatives from Reno, Sparks and Washoe County (and hosted/housed by the City of Reno), voted to hire NCE (consultant) to create the management plan for major tributaries feeding the Truckee River. This will be incorporated into the broader Truckee River Coordinated Watershed Management Plan, which is expected to be completed two years from now. The NCE contract went to the Reno City Council for approval on Jan. 9, 2019.

Balance Hydrologic, Inc. presented to the Truckee Meadows Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee on Dec. 20, 2018, and provided the Committee an overview of water quality data for the region. NCE and RCI are working together to ensure their efforts are coordinated.

OTR's Partnership Coordinator's focus within the Watershed Management Plan work is to support and focus on ensuring the process identifies specific project areas by the time the process is completed; and assist in areas where data sharing is of concern. The Partnership Coordinator will present to the TMSPCC in the first quarter of 2019.



2019 is here, and that means our next One Truckee River Month is, too! This May we'll have more events than ever along, in or about the Truckee River. Interested in taking part? Reach out to Sophie, our Outreach AmeriCorps member, at outreach@onetruckeeriver.org.

Thanks to Renown for sponsoring One Truckee River Month for a second year!



NEW YEAR, NEW ME, NO PLASTIC

Look around you.... There are probably numerous plastic objects surrounding you right now. So why is plastic so bad, how can you reduce it, and is it affecting the Truckee River?

Protecting the river from plastic starts in your home. Learn steps you can take TODAY to reduce your plastic consumption. We call it plastic (use) surgery;)