



United States Department of Agriculture



Forest Service



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Enterprise Program

Getting Results - Helping you get your work done

Enterprise Program staff are Forest Service employees who are mobile, available, and have the skills to meet the needs of Forest Service units.

Enterprise Units are Forest Service resources that offer an internal choice for accomplishing the Agency's work. They are comprised of Forest Service employees operating as independent, financially self-sustaining units funded by customers who benefit from the products and services they offer. Enterprise Units offer a wide variety of skills and specialties from conflict resolution to NEPA, trails and recreation, to interpretation and historic restoration. The projects described here come from Forest Service units across the country and illustrate the diversity and expertise offered from these dedicated and highly skilled units.

Resurrection Creek Stream and Riparian Restoration Analysis

Resurrection Creek, located in the Chugach National Forest (NF) near Hope, Alaska, had been hydraulically mined from the 1900s through the 1930s. The area previously provided high quality habitat for salmon, bear, bald eagle, moose and other wildlife and fish species. However, the tailings generated from the mining operation greatly reduced the quality of the habitat.

The purpose and need for this project was to accelerate the recovery of riparian areas and fish and wildlife habitat on Resurrection Creek. From October 2003 through December 2004, **TEAMS** provided the Chugach NF with an interdisciplinary team leader, landscape architect, recreation specialist, social scientist, writer/editor, structural engineer and geotechnical engineer. This group, along with team members from the Chugach NF, conducted public scoping, issue identification, development of alternatives, publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and response to public comment. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was released, and the Record of Decision was signed in November 2004. No appeals were submitted on the decision.



Restoration project to accelerate the recovery of riparian areas and fish and wildlife habitat on Resurrection Creek.
- TEAMS

continued

Highlights

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TEAMS, the Chugach NF, and the Youth Restoration Corps implemented the project in the spring and summer of 2005, rehabilitating 36 acres of flood plain and one river mile of spawning and rearing habitat for coho, chinook, chum and pink salmon and Dolly Varden char.

On May 4, 2007, the Alaska State Legislature honored the Youth Restoration Corps and the Resurrection Creek Partnership for their work on this project, in an area that was recognized as a five star restoration site by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, National Association of Counties, Wildlife Habitat Council, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Law Enforcement and Investigations Mobile Project

Law Enforcement and Investigations (LEI) has a goal to maximize the time an Officer works in the field. **Digital Visions (DV)** was asked to prepare mobile software technology by LEI which would enable Officers to complete much of their previous office based data work, in the field.



LEI mobile project.- Digital Visions

The 'LEIMARS Mobile' software enables Officers to issue tickets electronically (incident report, warning notices, federal violation notices) from the field. The project is now in its second year of development and field testing. Based upon the success of the work performed in FY06, during FY07 the software was expanded to include the federal violation notice and electronic communications with the US Courts/Central Violation Bureau. Twenty-four ruggedized laptops were purchased and 20 units placed in the field with officers. The project continues to evolve with a wide scale roll-out planned pending budget allocations.

George H.W. Bush Loop Accessible Trail

In fall 2007, **Trails Unlimited** completed the Bush Loop Accessible Trail portion of the Freeman Creek Trail reconstruction project. The Freeman Creek Trail is located in the Tule River and Hot Springs Ranger Districts, Giant Sequoia National Monument and Sequoia NF.

The work was done on a trail segment that passes through the Freeman Creek Giant Sequoia Grove and loops around the President George H.W. Bush Tree. The reconstructed trail provides a fully-accessible one half mile loop constructed with a hardened surface meeting Americans with Disabilities Act specifications. In addition, an accessible parking area for two vehicles was constructed at the beginning of the trail.



*Freeman Creek Trail, Bush Loop reconstruction project in the Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia National Monument.
- Trails Unlimited*

The project, located in a very remote area of the forest, boasts the installment of six arched culverts, 512,000 lbs. of material moved by hand, and required the work be completed within a six foot wide corridor in order to complete all facets of the construction without disturbing the environment outside the corridor.

Smithsonian Folklife Festival

"Forest Service, Culture, and Community" was one of four program areas for the 39th annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival held June and July 2005. This event brought together nearly 100 employees, retirees

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and 17 community artisans who shared the Agency's culture and heritage with over 1 million visitors in a living exhibition on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

Contributing to the success of the Folklife Festival were **Trails Unlimited, TEAMS, and Recreation Solutions.**

Trails Unlimited and TEAMS partnered together to build an interactive forest and handicapped accessible trail for the event. Trails Unlimited was the lead, bringing all the expertise for planning and building the forest and trail to the project. TEAMS provided manual labor and handled the non-forest logistics coordination.

Recreation Solutions was instrumental with logistics for the Folklife Festival long before the event, during the two-week period, and following the festivities. Team members acted as Festival Coordinator for a period of time, attended Smithsonian Institution event meetings, and assisted participants with travel logistics, equipment and displays.

Aldo Leopold House Restoration



Before and after. Aldo Leopold House restoration project, Carson National Forest. - Recreation Solutions

In 2006, crews completed the interior and exterior restoration of Aldo Leopold's former home in Tres Piedras, New Mexico in the Carson NF.

In December 1911, Leopold personally drew up the plans for the home he wanted to build for his wife-to-be Estella Bergere, a beautiful young Hispanic from Santa Fe. By spring of 1912, Leopold was able to

get an appropriation for the construction of the house which he then helped build and detail - a true labor of love!

Recreation Solutions was hired to complete the work on this modest and functional home of the conservationist and former Carson NF Forest Supervisor. A crew was provided to restore the home, as closely as possible, to the style and dimensions of the original home. From refinishing wooden floors to landscaping the grounds, the restoration was extensive and labor intensive. Recreation Solutions coordinated the use of volunteers who contributed significantly to the completion of this project.

Ultimately, the Carson NF hopes to promote the renovated home as a place where people can come and stay overnight for a fee while enjoying the historic setting.

Logging and Transportation Planning

Forest Resources Enterprise (FRE) completed a Gate 1 logging and transportation planning effort of a forest health and fuel reduction project in the Umatilla NF. This contract involved logging engineering and field verification on approximately 30,000 acres and the location of approximately 56 miles of proposed roads. FRE developed a cutting-edge transportation planning technique that involved the use of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology. In addition, FRE developed a method of displaying economically feasible treatment units in GIS that the Environmental Impact Statement Interdisciplinary Team used to analyze the economic results of potential alternatives.

California Inland Feeder Project - Arrowhead Tunnels

ACT2 is providing surface and ground water data stewardship and analysis for the southern California

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Inland Feeder Project - Arrowhead Tunnels, a high capacity water delivery system designed to improve reliability and quality of water to southern California communities. The project connects tunnels and pipelines stretching from the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains to the junction of the Colorado River Aqueduct near the city of San Jacinto in Riverside County. The Arrowhead Tunnels portion of the Inland Feeder project consists of nearly 10 miles of 19-foot diameter pipe. Some of the multiple stakeholders for this project include the San Bernardino NF, Metropolitan Water District, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, and US Geological Survey. ACT2 is providing both a geologist and hydrologist for design and development of the entire database currently used for tracking all hydrologic, geologic and biologic achievement and monitoring data. In addition, ACT2 generates and maintains the GIS spatial data for the project. ACT2 then retrieves and interprets all data, creates reports and representational graphs, generates maps and analyzes outcomes. This information is used by the San Bernardino NF to ensure terms of the special use permit are followed and required mitigation measures are in place to protect sensitive resources.



California Inland Feeder Project, tunnel, San Bernardino National Forest.- ACT2

wildland fire conditions. The SMNRA is also home to many endemic species and actively manages 57 unique species under a Conservation Agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, of which most occur in or around the communities identified for protection. Balancing the needs for the communities, these species and other resource issues such as fragile soils, steep slopes, and unique biodiversity hotspots provided a complex backdrop to this high profile community protection project. In addition, vegetation management has not occurred on the SMNRA, therefore local skills sets and supporting industry is not present.

TEAMS Enterprise provided overall project leadership by facilitating necessary biological surveys, archeological surveys, project design, agency collaboration, NEPA analysis, and project implementation. The project included fuels hazard reduction activities on nearly 2,400 acres in 12 different vegetation types organized into 300 implementation units. It will reduce fire risk to nearly 500 homes and ensure safe access and egress routes to the communities in which they are located. It utilizes helicopter, cable, and ground based logging systems, as well as, hand based treatments, prescribed fire, and pile burning to accomplish the fuel reduction work. This project was documented utilizing the authorities of Healthy Forest Restoration Act. The success of this project, from planning through implementation, was based upon the collaboration that TEAMS established with the SMNRA personnel, local communities, agencies, and individual land owners.



Spring Mountains, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, fuels reduction project. - TEAMS

Spring Mountains Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

Located in the Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, the Spring Mountains Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project (SMNRA) was initiated in 2006 to protect six at risk communities, each of which was identified in the Nevada Wildland Fire Assessment Project with high or extreme hazard assessment ratings due to

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Fire Behavior Assessment Team

In 2007, the Forest Service Washington Office of Fire and Aviation Management instigated a pilot effort to quantify the effectiveness of hazardous fuel treatments during the suppression of wildfires.

Adaptive Management Services Enterprise Team (AMSET)

was asked to study four of the fires selected for this nationwide hazardous fuel treatment analysis. One of these fires, the 2007 Ham Fire in Minnesota, burned through extensive areas in the wildland-urban interface and wildlands in Minnesota and Canada. Extensive hazardous fuel treatments had been implemented across this area following an enormous 1999 windstorm that resulted in a massive blow-down fuel hazard. To reduce this hazard, the Superior NF had implemented numerous strategically placed, large landscape prescribed burns and targeted various mechanical treatments.



*Hazardous fuel treatment assessment, Ham Fire 2007.
-AMSET*

The Fire Behavior Assessment Team (FBAT), a unique, specialized group of fire scientists and experienced firefighters from AMSET, conducted an innovative assessment of the Ham Fire that incorporated: 1) New satellite-based fire severity maps, 2) Interviews with Superior NF firefighters and members of the National Type 1 Incident Management Team that managed the fire, and 3) Field surveys. FBAT also worked with statisticians from the Pacific Southwest Research Station to develop innovative, robust and credible statistical analysis of the data.

FBAT determined that the fuel treatments:
1) Did reduce fire behavior, 2) Directly aided

firefighting, and 3) Reduced undesirable environmental fire effects. Finally, FBAT worked with a noted fire science editor to construct an understandable and readily applicable report for use by managers.

Interdisciplinary Team Coaching

From April through October 2007, *Streamline* provided Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) coaching services to the White River NF in Region 2. The focus of this effort was the Upper Eagle River Beetle Salvage project (UERBS). The current epidemic of Mountain Pine beetles in northwestern Colorado has been going since the 1990's, had grown past one-million acres by the end of 2007, and has now killed over 90% of all mature lodge pole pines in this area.

This project was proposed under the authority of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003. As such, the NEPA process emphasized a collaborative approach to public involvement, hazardous fuels reduction via insect salvage along transportation corridors linking local communities, and opportunities for objection before the decision rather than administrative appeal afterwards.

The decision for the UERBS project was issued in spring 2008, after the Regional Office reviewed two objections. Due to the expertise that *Streamline* provided, the UERBS Environmental Assessment (EA) is now used as an example for other EA work on the White River.

Travel Management

In response to the National Travel Management Rule created to address concerns over resource damage from increased off-highway vehicle use, the seven national forests of Mississippi asked **ACT2** to complete a route designation analysis. Forests are directed to implement the Rule by designating travel routes and limited areas of cross country travel. Changes in designation are proposed on approximately 100 miles of currently authorized routes and alternatives included thousands of acres

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where seasonal game retrieval would be allowed. Public concerns are high in Mississippi as these forests will be making a decision regarding motorized traffic on designated travel routes in areas that have generally been open to travel. After public meetings throughout Mississippi, ACT2 processed over 600 comments to consolidate issues and formulate alternatives to the proposal. ACT2 then completed an analysis of all alternatives and effects to resources, which included changes in both designation of routes and timing of use. Ultimately the process will yield maps illustrating the designated motorized travel routes. The project is currently out to the public for the 30 day comment period. Many comments are expected and ACT2 will be responsible for responding to these comments. ACT2 will then assist the forests in writing the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impacts.

Recreation Facility Analysis

In 2004, the Forest Service embarked on an ambitious idea - to develop and implement a nationally consistent analysis of each forest's developed recreation facilities. **Independent Resources (InRe) Enterprise Team** was instrumental in making this process, now termed Recreation Facility Analysis (RFA), successful.

To ensure consistency and success of the analysis process, every forest participated in four workshops coordinated through the Integrated Business Service Center (IBSC) and InRe. InRe also supported the Washington Office Developed Recreation Program Manager through communication products and public participation strategies. The process required every forest to first clean up all their data by identifying all facilities at recreation sites, and then calculating the costs to repair, operate and annually maintain each of these facilities to standard. InRe provided for a 'demand analysis'

for each forest, which incorporated research data to identify who is recreating on individual forests and what they are doing now and into the future. Using a facilitated mapping exercise, which often included stakeholder input, forests then looked at their special places and opportunities. All of this resulted in a forest recreation niche where visitor desires overlap with a forest's recreation opportunities.

In the final workshops, forests identified ways to become more financially efficient and consistent with their niche and developed a proposed program of work that focused on those two items as well as on environmental and community sustainability. Now, approximately 115 forests and 460 workshops later, RFA is nearly complete. However, the benefits of the effort will continue long into the future as the lessons learned and the effort expended help the Forest Service achieve sustainability in the recreation program.



*National recreation fee analysis
of developed recreation facilities.
- Independent Resources*

Enterprise Program Information

A list of all seventeen Enterprise Units and their offerings can be found on the Enterprise Program websites.

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Internet:

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