



Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture

WATERSHED – FISH – WILDLIFE – AIR – RARE PLANTS ::: WFW

MONTHLY WFW STAFF NEWSLETTER

August/September/October 2007

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Federal job announcements can be found at:
http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp

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National in Scope:

GENERAL/CROSS AREAS

Alan G. Christensen – Retiring :: USFS PNW Natural Resources Group Leader

On November 1, Alan Christensen will start another phase of his amazing career. He is currently the Region 6 “Group Leader for Natural Resources” - equivalent to “Director” in other regions. Alan is joining the Western Rivers Conservancy as a Land Program Manager. Congratulations Alan! We will miss your honesty, integrity and thoughtful analysis you bring to every issue. We look forward to working with you and the Western Rivers Conservancy.

Submitted by: Ron Dunlap, USFS/WO/WFW

WFW Continuing Education – Register!

The WFW Continuing Education (CE) program "call" for nominations started electronically in May. Hard copy letters and the brochure went out in July. **There is still time to register!** Self-funded FS employees can register directly in AgLearn. Some regions assist with tuition - contact [our Regional Coordinators](#) or the [WFW/CE Program Leader](#) (everyone) for details. Workshops are open to everyone.

[WFW Continuing Education website](#)

[How to Register Information](#)

Submitted By: Shelly Witt, WO/WFW/Continuing Education

AIR RESOURCE

Acheson Selected as WO Air Program Leader

Ann Acheson, R9 Regional Air Program Manager, is the new WO/WFW Air Program Leader. An air specialist veteran of more than 15 years, she was the Regional Air Program Manager in Missoula and is now responsible for air issues in the NE areas of R9. She's also the Smoke FARM Team Chair because she is especially proficient in smoke issues. The “Air Program Leader” title is changing to “Atmosphere Program Leader”.

Submitted By: Ron Dunlap, WO/WFW/Watershed-Aquatics-Weather Assistant Director

TES

Judge Upholds Endangered Species Protection for Wild Salmon

This is important – links to key discussions are listed below.

Seattle Post Intelligencer: [Blog on Salmon Protection](#)

[EarthJustice](#): "The decision is the third court decision in recent months confirming that wild Pacific salmon should be protected under federal law."

[EarthJustice](#): [The latest ruling](#)

The New York Times 2002 article: [‘Saving’ Wild Salmon’s Bucket-Born Cousins](#)

Submitted by: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW/TES

TEP Plant Species Profiles

TEP = Threatened, Endangered and Proposed

A new resource is now available to support conservation and recovery of TEP plant species known to be on the National Forest and Grasslands. See the link below to rare plant information and to TEP plant species profiles.

The species are searchable by state, by National Forest/Grassland and/or by Latin name. Species profiles also have links to the PLANTS Database and to FWS Species Profiles. With the assistance of many others, Julie Nelson, R5 Shasta-Trinity NF botanist, has done a super job of preparing this resource.

Please note that the TEP plant species included in the profiles are species that are known to be ON NFS lands.

www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/rareplants/index.shtml

Submitted by: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW/TES

WATERSHED

FS & EPA Sign MOA - Increasing Coordination to Improve Water Quality

On **Friday, September 28**, Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell and EPA Assistant Administrator for Water Benjamin Grumbles signed a Memorandum of Agreement that enables both agencies to increase coordinated efforts to manage, protect, and restore the health of the Nation's water resources.

This agreement identifies areas in which the Forest Service and EPA will increase coordination of activities and cooperation with states, territories and tribes addressing water quality impairments on National Forest System lands and accelerate attainment of water quality standards.

[More information...](#)

Submitted By: Sherry Hazelhurst, WO/WFW/Watershed

WILDLIFE

2007 Answer the Call – Outstanding Service Award: Quail Unlimited Volunteer

Adapted from ceremony. Presented at the July Quail Unlimited convention.

Dedicated. Efficient. Organized. Three characteristics describing the 2007 Quail Unlimited volunteer of the year, Robert Armijo, Habitat Chairman, San Gabriel Valley Chapter of QU, southern California. Robert consistently organized, and led, one of the most active Quail Unlimited volunteer programs in the West, if not the country. In just five years, 55 projects were successfully completed in partnership with the Forest Service adjacent to one of the largest metropolitan areas in the nation.

This chapter averages ten to twelve projects every year. Robert schedules a chapter project every month. Access to the project area is verified and required materials collected. He effectively motivates other chapter members and volunteers who help construct the projects.



The social and economic impact of supporting upland habitat in a forest so close to a big city is difficult to calculate. But throughout fall and winter, hunters log thousands of hours in pursuit of quail and other wild game. Thanks to QU volunteers there are more opportunities for hunters and others to enjoy wildlife near an urban center.

Thanks to all the San Gabriel Valley Chapter volunteers for the hundreds of hours improving habitat for quail on national forests in southern California.

Submitted by: Gail Tunberg, USFS/R3/Wildlife; Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW/Wildlife

2007 Answer the Call – Excellence in Quail Habitat Stewardship

Adapted from ceremony. Presented at the July Quail Unlimited convention.

Donna Bayless Ray is the 2007 Answer the Call – Habitat Stewardship award winner.

In 1994, Donna successfully applied for the first “Answer the Call” grant in South Carolina; being funded every year for the past 12 years for a total of \$107,000. The applications are so well done they serve as a national template. The results include:

- improving bobwhite habitat over thousands of acres crossing three ranger districts,
- tree thinning providing forest products,
- prescribed burning reducing fuels to protect rural communities,
- improving habitat for other wildlife such as wild turkey, white-tailed deer, and forest songbirds.

Donna actively participates in collaborative planning efforts resulting in landscape scale habitat improvement across federal, state, and private land ownerships.

These relationships have fostered willingness for other partner groups to join the partnership to accomplish planned work. You may have seen her on a recent QU video talking about quail habitat management on national forests.



Donna Bayless Ray poses with the Answer The Call committee. Left to right: Roger Wells (QU), Donna Bayless Ray, Rex Ennis (USFS/R8), Jina Mariani (USFS/WO), Gail Tunberg (USFS/R3/USFS Answer the call Program Coordinator, Corbin Newman (USFS/WO).

Submitted by: Gail Tunberg, USFS/R3/Wildlife; Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW/Wildlife

Elk Habitat Management Strategy

Biologists from Forest Service, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game, and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation completed an analysis of elk habitat conditions on lands managed by the Klamath National Forest. The cooperatively developed management strategy, first of its kind in California, used a modeling tool called Arc Habitat Suitability Index to assess habitat variables (cover, forage, and habitat distribution) to determine a habitat suitability score and identify areas that may benefit from habitat work. The 'Strategy' provides the Klamath NF a format for sharing known Klamath elk information and a spatial habitat suitability analysis that indicates restoration potential and priority. Investments in projects can be prioritized and partnerships developed to make commitments at the right scale and of highest priority using results from this comprehensive analysis.

[more information...](#)

Submitted by: Cheryl Carrothers, USFS/R5/EC/Wildlife

Coming Events – Conferences & Meetings:

WILDLIFE

Ecological Site Descriptions as a Management Tool – Understanding and Improving Applications for Wildlife Habitat Management in Sagebrush Ecosystems

Date: Oct. 23-25, 2007

Location: Park City Marriott Hotel, Park City UT

Information/Registration: www.rangelands.org/events_esd.shtml

Sponsors: Society for Range Management, Western Governors' Association, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Natural Resources Conservation Service, The Wildlife Society

Workshop Purposes:

1. Introduce habitat managers, planners and policy makers to the use and development of Ecological Site Descriptions.
2. Encourage interdisciplinary improvement of wildlife interpretations in Ecological Site Descriptions and enhance the utility of the tool for managing sagebrush ecosystems.
3. Identify information gaps and define priorities for research and development.

Submitted by: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

OTHER STAFF & PARTNERS

Wildlife Habitat Council - 19th Annual Symposium || *Value of Green*



Celebrating 20 years in conservation, the Wildlife Habitat Council is hosting the 19th Annual Symposium, *The Value of Green*. Keynote Speaker, Daniel C. Esty, is the Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy at Yale

University and is the Director of the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy and the Center for Business and Environment. His book, *Green to Gold*, shows how companies generate lasting value--cutting costs, reducing risk, driving new revenues and creating strong brands--by building environmental thinking into their core business strategies.

Location: Baltimore, Maryland 21202 at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore

Dates: November 12-13, 2007

Information: [Symposium](#) [WHC Main Page](#)

Contact: symposium@wildlifehc.org

Submitted By: Vanessa Kauffman, WHC

Technical Information & Publications:

GENERAL/ACROSS AREAS

Cool Things Forest Service is Doing on the Web

NatureWatch Salmon & Eagle Cams – Up & Running

The live NatureWatch Cams are up and running. Specifically, the salmon cam is very active. The eagles did not nest this year. They did nest last year, and we are hoping this coming year will be another success. Take a virtual trip to the field...you need a break check back often you can set one of the live cams as you default on your internet browser... it takes a second to load but worth a minute out of you day to see what goes on in the natural world on national forests. You might see a nuthatch peck at the eagle camera.

[Salmon Cam](#)

[Eagle Cam](#)

Submitted by: Don Virgovic, USFS/WFW/NatureWatch

Brasstown Bald Streaming Webcams

www.fs.fed.us/conf/conditions/webcam.htm

OHV Trail Info in Google Earth

Scroll to the bottom of the page: www.fs.fed.us/conf/rec/ohv/index.htm

Geo-tagged photos in Google Earth for monitoring bulletin board standards compliance

<http://fsweb.chattoconee.r8.fs.fed.us/staff/rec/bb-photos/chattooga/lake-russell-nancytown/>

This is a Forest Service internal link (FSWeb).

FSWiki

<http://fswiki.wo.fs.fed.us/fswiki/sandbox/index.php>

This is a Forest Service internal link (FSWeb).

AQUATICS

EPA – Effects of Climate Change

EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment released the 4-draft document about climate change. The comment period is over but still very interesting reading. Climate change is one of our agencies focus areas. We are developing a policy to that end. Will the western US be the main focus of the agency regarding climate change and aquatic systems?

- [Effects of Climate Change on Aquatic Invasive Species and Implications for Management and Research](#)
- [Preliminary Assessment of Climate Change Effects on Stream and River Biological Indicators](#)
- [Climate Change Effects on Stream and River Biological Indicators: A Preliminary Analysis](#)
- [Climate and Land Use Change Effects on Ecological Resources in Three Watersheds: A Synthesis Report](#)

Submitted by: Nick Schmal, USFS/R9/WFRPR

TES – Threatened and Endangered Species

Delta Smelt Case – Hearing Transcript

Another example of the importance of:

1. Monitoring; to know "what" the conservation status of species and habitats are, and of results of management effects, and
2. A single species (and the ESA) in helping - even forcing - us to understand ecological processes, sustainable mgmt. and how to conserve ecosystems.

31 Aug 2007: www.nrdc.org/media/2007/070901.asp

25 May 2007: www.nrdc.org/media/2007/070526.asp

Submitted by: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

Lawsuit Seeks Endangered Species Protection for Palouse Earthworm

Actually, a NOI was submitted...

- [grist: Environmental News & Commentary](#)
- [E-WIRE](#)
- [The Straight Dope](#)

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

Endangered Plant Move - White irisette, *Sisyrinchium dichotomum*

USF&WS Field Notes Newsletter Vol 1 No 3 Winter 2007 :: Page 8

North Carolina DOT is moving 250 listed as endangered white irisette plants on the Skyuka Mountain Road. A win-win approach – spread the word. Part of the "win" for the plants involves protection from competition from Japanese Stiltgrass and Kudzu!

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

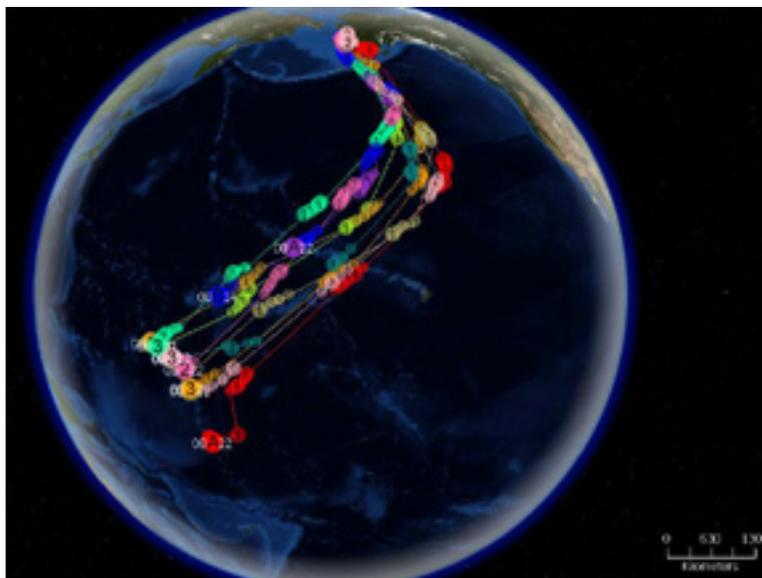
WILDLIFE

Track online Bristle-thigh Curlew Migration

[Thttp://alaska.usgs.gov/science/biology/shorebirds/index.html](http://alaska.usgs.gov/science/biology/shorebirds/index.html)T

Migrate with the Bristle-thigh Curlew without leaving your desktop. KMZ files at the website (above) allow migration tracking via an interactive map.

In the photo: Eleven transmitters are on the air. Ten birds have migrated successfully: 8 are in the Marshall Islands, 1 in the Gilberts, and 1 on Lisianski. One bird (H4) is still in Alaska just south of Egegik Bay. Her transmitter indicates that she is alive, so maybe she just has a different migration strategy than the other birds from Allen Creek. This amazing mapping is brought to us by Lee Tibbitts (Wildlife Biologist) with the USFS-Alaska Science Center/Shorebird Project.



Submitted by: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW

Training – Tools – Interesting Information:

Training

GENERAL/CROSS AREAS

Add Defensive Driving Course – to your AgLearn History Profile

Correction to the June/July WFW Newsletter regarding “FREE” online Defensive Driving Course in AgLearn.

If you have taken the NSC Defensive Driving Course, you can enter the information into your AgLearn History Profile. This is done by each individual. You do not “Register” for the NSC training through AgLearn. You take the training directly from NSC. The Forest Service has an MOU with NSC providing the course for a little over \$7 per person. The normal “off the street” price is \$41. Forest Service employees - be sure to get the MOU price! Refer to the following documents for exact details

- [TOnline Defensive Driving Course via Professional Development Associates \(PDA\)](#)
- [Online Defensive Driving Course via National Safety Council \(NSC\)](#)
- [2005 Defensive Driving Training Policy Clarification](#)

Submitted By: Rhonda Stewart, WO/WFW/Appeals & Litigation

WFW Continuing Education – Registered vs. Request vs. Learning Plan in AgLearn

We are seeing a number of people thinking they are “registered” in AgLearn when they are not. Listing a training event in your AgLearn “Learning Plan” does not necessarily get you registered. Contact Shelly Witt if you need help (435-881-4203;switt01@fs.fed.us).

Below is step by step information on using AgLearn.

Registering in AgLearn:

Log into AgLearn (obviously) ||| www.aglearn.usda.gov

Having a training listed in the "Learning Plan" is the same as listing training on your IDP -- it is a "wishlist" for training. **Learning Plan = IDP** It is **NOT** the same as being "Registered".

If you are registered you will received an AgLearn auto email REGISTRATION notification (saying you are officially confirmed and registered). If you don't get an email like that then you are not registered.

To "register" for a scheduled event (e.g., dates are set for a training) - click on the "Catalog" tab.

Under the "Catalog" tab there is a row of text. Click on "Simple Catalog Search" or "Advanced Catalog search". Keep it as simple as possible! One key word from the title, for example. I recommend using "Advanced" and the "ID" search. All the WFW Cont Ed workshops start with one of the following:

FS-WO-2600

FS-WO-2500

FS-WO-2470 (Landscape Ecology...coordination with Silviculture)

FS-R6-2600 (gets the R6 PNW Aquatic Training program; NR16/NR20/NR9)

You should get a table listing a number of workshops.

Click on the TRIANGLE on the left hand side of the title.

You will get a drop down table (takes a moment to generate). On the right hand side of the box there is a button to "register" under the "Action" header. This is the only way to

"register". Lots of places to "Add to Learning Plan". Again, not the same thing.

Click on the workshop TITLE and you'll get details on the workshop (and options to "Add to Learning Plan"...not to "Register")

"Requesting" Training:

If an Item (a.k.a. training, workshop, course) is listed in AgLearn but is not scheduled (e.g., no dates set for hosting), people can "Request Schedule". That means you are requesting that the specific item be scheduled/hosted. Your name is added to a "request" list. You are NOT committed to anything by doing this. It helps me (and others administering training) know the degree of interest for specific training. "Request Schedule" does NOT mean you are requesting AgLearn to email you the trainings "schedule" or agenda.

Checking if you are registered:

Click on the "Learning" tab.

Under the "Learning" tab you'll see a row of text -- click on the 3rd item "Current Registrations".

All your registrations are listed there.

Principles of Modeling for Conservation Planning and Analysis

Vendor: USDI FWS National Conservation Training Center (NCTC)

Locations & Dates: October 29 - November 2 in Atlanta, GA
December 10-14 at NCTC

Purpose: techniques and concepts of modeling for natural resource issues

Information: [Register online through DOI Learn.](#)

Contact: Donna Brewer, Curriculum Manager, 304/876-7451

WATERSHED

Water Resource Management for Line and Staff Officers (WRMLO) – Nominate Yourself!

Dates: February 25 – 29, 2008

Location: Sedona, AZ

Information

Contacts: Ranotta McNair or Suzanne Endsley at (208)-765-7369

AgLearn: Search in 'Advanced' Catalog using "FS-WO-2500" under ID.

Almost daily there are headlines or news stories about drought, water demand and supply, water quality, or endangered aquatic species. In many cases, National Forest System lands are involved and a Forest Service official may be quoted or cited in the story. It is vital that we are well trained and ready to be an effective player in these valuable resource issues.

Forest Supervisors developed WRMLO in the field for Field Line Officers and Program Managers. Previous participants gave WRMLO high marks. The curriculum brings together a diverse group of experts in global, national, and State water resource issues. The course structure provides a seminar setting, case studies, and a field trip to offer participants an opportunity to gain valuable perspectives and interaction with their peers.

Call Letter ([PDF](#)) ([DOC](#))

[WRMLO Brochure](#)

[Draft Agenda](#)

Submitted By: John Potyondy, WO/WFW-RMRS/StreamTeam

Interesting Information

AQUATIC

[Region 9's: USFS Success Story Reporting System on the FSWeb \(FS intranet\)](#)

Freshwater Mussels Receive a New Home

By: Rebecca Ewing, Wayne NF

Excerpt: The Wayne National Forest's proposed Frontier Landing Boat Launch is one step closer to becoming a reality after a successful mussel relocation effort. Access for pleasure boaters and water rescue personnel is limited in the Ohio River's Willow Island Pool, but Wayne National Forest managers have just completed the planning and initial design for a new Ohio River access facility. Before necessary permits can be approved and construction can begin, a freshwater mussel survey is required because two federally endangered mussels, the Pink Mucket Pearly Mussel and the Fanshell, are present in the middle reaches of the Ohio River. The Forest Service must ensure no adverse effects would occur to these animals if the boat launch facility were to be constructed. The Forest Service enlisted the help of U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service divers from the Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) to survey a 350-foot long area for mussels where disturbance would most likely occur. A total of 14 species were collected along the transects. No Pink Mucket Pearly Mussels or Fanshells were found, but a single Lilliput, a Regional Forester sensitive species, was located.



Each freshwater mussel collected was relocated to Grape Island, one of the NWR's islands closest to the Frontier Boat Launch site. "We will take all of the mussels we collect and release them in areas with excellent habitat quality around Grape Island", explained Patricia Morrison, NWR Biologist/freshwater mussel expert. "Historic mussel beds were decimated in the past by water pollution and changes in habitat conditions, so these individuals will help re-establish what we hope will once again be thriving mussel beds in the future". Before the mussels were released at Grape Island, each was closely inspected for zebra mussel encrustations. Each mussel was gently scraped removing all of the zebra mussels from its shell with a small knife before putting them in a holding bag. Zebra mussels are non-native invasive species and can suffocate the native mussels if they build up too much around their siphons.

Interagency Efforts Support Piping Plover Recovery

Reducing threats to nesting areas are key to growing plover numbers.

By: Mark Curtiss, Huron-Manistee

Excerpt: Together with other federal and state agencies, tribal governments, universities, other organizations and private citizens, staff of the Huron-Manistee National Forests participated in annual monitoring and banding of the endangered shorebird, the piping plover. The high degree of threat and low recovery potential led to the 1986 listing of the piping plover as an endangered species. Formerly known to nest in 20 counties along the Great Lakes, increased human recreation and development of the plover's habitat over the past 100 years has led to declining populations and the federal endangered status.



Caption: Piping plovers were once a common sight along Lake Michigan shorelines.

Once considered common, by 1986, only 17 nesting pairs remained. Annual surveys, which began in 2001, are conducted during the nesting season.

Over 200 miles of Great Lakes shoreline have been designated as critical habitat, including nearly five miles within the Huron-Manistee National Forests and an additional 3.7 miles in the adjacent Ludington State Park.

Though their nests have not been documented on Forest Service lands, piping plover fledglings are seen nearly every year along the shores of Lake Michigan within Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness and the adjoining Lake Michigan Recreation Area. These birds are either migrating through or are wandering from nests on adjacent State land.

The potential for active nesting on the Huron-Manistee National Forests' lands will likely increase as plover populations recover and available nesting sites are more fully utilized, particularly if human, pet and predator intrusions can be controlled or reduced.

Chief among the threats to piping plover include habitat alteration and destruction, predation, and disturbance by humans and dogs, particularly during the April through August nesting season. Increased numbers of gulls and other predators drawn by garbage also compromise the piping plover. The mere presence of pets in potential nesting areas is a growing concern.

"The most critical task that staff does to promote piping plovers within our forest boundaries is enforcing the control of dogs so as to not disturb either the plover or other species' habitat," says Chris Schumacher, wildlife biologist on the Cadillac-Manistee Ranger District.

Using the Media to Get the Word Out on Invasive Species

Billboards are a cost-effective way to reach large public audiences. Partners come together to address the common threat of invasive species.

By: Nick Schmal, R09 – Regional Office

Excerpt: The "Threat Campaign" is an innovative series of multimedia outreach messages targeted to the hunting and fishing community, as well as the general public, to stop the spread of invasive species. It includes television, print, billboards, dioramas and Public Service Announcement's (PSA's).



Billboard example.

All messages are crafted to gain quick attention and to take advantage of current thought trends and concerns of the American public. Headlines include: "America's Most Wanted," "Warning," "Fugitives," "Invaders," and "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!"

Wildlife Forever and the Eastern Regional Office created unique partnerships with government agencies, nongovernmental organizations and media corporations to leverage resources and target the invasive species message to the means of delivery.

For the pilot year in Minnesota, television, radio broadcasts, print ads, highway billboards, and airport dioramas successfully reached a targeted audience of over 125 million Americans with a tailored message promoting best management practices for fighting the invasion of exotic aquatic species.

The partnership pooled together \$111,988 for the effort. With discounts obtained through Wildlife Forever's unique relationships, the Threat Campaign's market value was almost a quarter of a million dollars. The 2006 "Threat Campaign" reached 1,123 people with every dollar invested in outreach.

In 2007, the campaign spread from Minnesota to Iowa and Wisconsin with billboards also created and displayed in the states to evaluate the effectiveness of outreach and prevention activities, including use of highway billboards.

[Information on aquatic hitchhikers](#)

Cooperative Project Improves Hiawatha Fish Habitat

Partners help the Hiawatha construct six gravel riffles.

By: Janel Crooks, Hiawatha NF

Contributing Author: Chuck Bassett, Forest Fisheries Program Manager

Excerpt: Wildlife Unlimited of Delta County and Plum Creek Timber Company recently joined with the Hiawatha National Forest to improve spawning habitat for fish in Eighteenmile Creek in eastern Delta County. Matching contributions of \$2500 from Wildlife Unlimited and Plum Creek this spring helped fund construction of six gravel "riffles" that will be used by spawning steelhead and salmon.

Eighteenmile Creek is one of several streams in Delta County improved with the help of Wildlife Unlimited and other partners. Since 1985, partners have contributed more than \$150,000 to fish habitat management in the Whitefish, Ogontz, Sturgeon and Fishdam River systems.

Forest Service fish population surveys found that spawning habitat built with Wildlife Unlimited assistance in 1997 produces approximately 1600 juvenile steelhead per mile each year in lower Eighteenmile Creek.

Wildlife Unlimited also has contributed to the cost of installing spawning gravel in tributaries to Eighteenmile Creek, specifically for the benefit of brook trout. Brook trout occasionally use gravel installed for steelhead but much of their reproduction occurs in small spring-fed tributaries. Young brook trout migrate to Eighteenmile Creek as they outgrow the confines of the spawning streams. Forest Service evaluations found a 9-fold increase in abundance of brook trout in a tributary following installation of gravel. Between 1992 and 2003, overall numbers of brook trout in Eighteenmile Creek increased 65 percent.



The new riffles will improve fish habitat and provide opportunity for anglers.

The 2007 spawning gravel project in Eighteenmile Creek is part of a comprehensive plan to improve habitat conditions for coldwater fish species in many area streams. Other treatments that have been completed include log structures, in-channel sediment basins, stabilization of eroding banks and upgraded road crossings.

These projects reduce sediment loads and provide hiding cover and pools that fish require for survival. Wide "no harvest" buffers strips between the stream and timber harvest units on Forest Service lands complement the instream habitat projects by protecting sensitive stream side areas from disturbance. This maintains shade that keeps water temperatures cool and provides a future source of large wood structure.

For more information on the Forest Service fisheries program or partnership opportunities contact Chuck Bassett at 906-789-3336 or cbassett@fs.fed.us.

Stories Submitted By: Nick Schmal, USFS/R9/WFRPR

Edited for space limits.

[Region 9's: USFS Success Story Reporting System](#) on the FSWeb (FS intranet)
open to all the USFS – submit your "Success Story"

Vacancies/Employment Opportunities

Federal job announcements can be found at: http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp

WFW Newsletter Contact Information: Disclaimer – Non Discrimination Statement

WFW Newsletter is a monthly newsletter without a clever name and is provided by the National Forest System Watershed-Fish-Wildlife-Air-Rare Plants staff (including Soils and Meteorology) of the USDA Forest Service. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted to Netta Grant at agrant@fs.fed.us or your favorite Program Leader no later than the 20th of each month. We reserve the right to edit contributions for clarity and brevity. Emphasis on brevity. Links to detailed URLs or documents are great – include them in your information contribution. If photos are included in your submission please provide alternative text with each photo. Alternative text should not repeat captions but describe the scene shown in the photo.

If brevity and clarity are a struggle for you, we recommend the “[Plain & Simple! Document Writing](#)” workshop instructed by Dr. Jud Monroe.

Vacancy Positions listed are for outreach purposes only and are not full announcements. Interested individuals should contact the units referenced or consult the [USAJOBS website](#).

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