

STREAM NOTES

To Aid in Securing Favorable Conditions of Water Flows

October 1992

Welcome to the first issue of STREAM NOTES, the quarterly newsletter of the Stream Systems Technology Center.

The newsletter strives to:

- * Provide a media for the exchange of new and current technology and applications in wildland hydrology and related sciences.

Improve technical communication among all disciplines working with wildland stream systems.

- * Incorporate into the ecosystem management concept the sciences of geomorphology, hydrology, and watershed management.

Wildland hydrology is a relatively new discipline. Practitioners are relatively few in number, concentrated in land management agencies, and generally located in rural communities isolated from close contact with their peers. They come from diverse backgrounds and are often required to be innovative in adapting technology to new applications.

Because of the rapidly changing nature of technical applications in this new science, communication among specialists is especially critical.

Specialists need to know what others are doing in related fields to avoid duplication of effort and allow for synergistic evolution of new ideas. Likewise, new technology developed by research and universities needs to be communicated to this group in a rapid manner. Equally important, researchers need to stay abreast of the needs of the field so that they can address appropriate problem areas. STREAM NOTES will provide a media for the exchange of ideas and the building of informal networks of information exchange vital to the efficient solving of watershed problems which face Forest Service land managers.

This inaugural issue introduces the Stream Systems Technology Center and the people making up the STREAM TEAM.



STREAM NOTES is produced quarterly by the Stream Systems Technology Center, Fort Collins, Colorado.

The PRIMARY AIM is to exchange technical ideas and transfer technology among scientists working with wildland stream systems.

CONTRIBUTIONS are voluntary and will be accepted at any time. They should be typewritten, single-spaced, limited to two pages in length. Graphics and tables are encouraged.

Ideas and opinions expressed are not necessarily Forest Service Policy. Trade names do not constitute endorsement by the Forest Service.

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IN THIS ISSUE

Introducing the
Stream Systems
Technology Center

Introducing the Stream Systems Technology Center

The Stream Systems Technology Center, "Stream Team" was created by the USDA Forest Service's Washington Office as a National 5-year joint effort between Forest Service Research and National Forest Systems. The center is housed at the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Fort Collins, Colorado.



Mission and Goals

The mission of the STREAM TEAM is to improve knowledge about stream ecosystems and physical processes, to identify research needs, develop operational tools, and provide training and technical support to forest officers.

The team's goals are to improve knowledge of physical processes and management strategies affecting wildland streams by:

- * Refining and expanding technology to quantify instream flow needs and benefits.
- * Bringing together existing knowledge, skills, and resources to address instream flow and stream-related cumulative effects issues.
- * Raising the knowledge and skill levels of Forest specialists through training, technical support, and technical assistance in understanding channel processes as they relate to flow and sediment.
- * Identifying knowledge gaps from a user perspective that limit the land manager's ability to manage stream systems and identify and target priority research products.

Staff of the Stream Team

The Stream Systems Technology Center has a staff of three.

Larry Schmidt is the Center Director. Prior to this assignment, Larry was in charge of the Riparian Management and Watershed Improvement Program in the Watershed and Air Management Staff in the Washington Office. He has also been Assistant Director of Watershed and Air Management in the Southwest Region, Regional Hydrologist in the Intermountain Region, and Forest Hydrologist on the Toiyabe National Forest.

John Potyondy is the STREAM TEAM hydrologist. Prior to this assignment, John was the Forest Hydrologist on the Boise National Forest. He has also been a hydrologist in the Regional Office in the Intermountain Region, District Hydrologist on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and a hydrologist with the Peace Corps in Morocco.

Penny Williams is the Secretary and Administrative Assistant for the STREAM TEAM. She was formerly with the Multiresource Inventory Techniques Project at the Rocky Mountain Station.



STREAM SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Operating Philosophy

Stream Systems Technology Center staff will act as a **catalyst** and **link** between the user of information and the research community, conveying existing knowledge to the user and conveying their needs to researchers. We will strive to:

* Be the authoritative source of information and technology regarding flows and geomorphic processes affecting streams.

* Operate in concert with other research and application efforts using an interdisciplinary approach with other agencies, universities, institutions, groups, individuals, and Forest Service units.

* Assess the needs of our customers and seek to satisfy them on a priority basis.



Work Priorities

The Stream Systems Technology Center will give program and annual work priority to favorable condition of flow related projects that best satisfy the following criteria:

1. Provide scientific knowledge and develop applications that will find **immediate use** by field scientists and managers to **produce important, widespread, and beneficial changes** in securing favorable conditions of stream flows.

2. Emphasize development of technologies that will **sustain the greatest amount of resource value** in the public interest on National Forest System lands.

3. Resolve scientific/technology issues where resources are at risk of **irretrievable commitment** or loss if knowledge is absent.

4. Produce the greatest **value for the dollar and workforce** investment by encouraging partnerships and matching of funds with NFS, Research, or others to leverage priority or expand applicability.

5. Encourage interdisciplinary/inter-project/inter-station **scientific teamwork and collaboration**.

6. Give preference to technology development that provides a **comprehensive set of guidelines or procedures** to enable users to **take full advantage of the current status of the science** in accomplishing a stream or watershed related job.

7. **Anticipate future technology needs** indicated by customers, trends, or foresight of the Steering Committee.

8. **Address unique needs** not currently addressed by on-going research and development efforts internally or by others.

9. **Make effective use of existing data sets** by re-analysis of historic data and/or supplemental studies.

10. Generate scientific information to **provide a sound basis for the Forest Service** decision making process regarding instream flows.



In the next issue of STREAM NOTES

Specific projects currently under development will be featured!



STREAM SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Editorial Policy

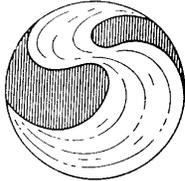
We need voluntary contributions of relevant articles or items of general interest. To make this newsletter a success, YOU need to take the time to share innovative approaches to problem solving that you have developed.

Please submit typed, single-spaced contributions limited to two pages. Include graphics and photos that help explain ideas.

We will reserve editorial judgments regarding appropriate relevance, style, and content to meet our objectives of improving scientific knowledge. Send all contributions to: Stream Systems Technology Center, Attention: STREAM NOTES Editor.

Please share copies of STREAM NOTES with your friends and associates. We have attempted to mail a copy of the newsletter to each Forest Service hydrologist and fisheries biologist using lists provided by the Regional Offices, but there will undoubtedly be many who we will not have reached.

Anyone wishing to be added to our mailing list or requiring a change of address should send their name and address via DG to STREAM:S28A or write to our mailing address at USDA Forest Service, Stream Systems Technology Center, Rocky Mountain Station, 240 West Prospect, Fort Collins, CO 80525.



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