

## StreamNotes: Work Plan for Renewed Publication

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### SUMMARY

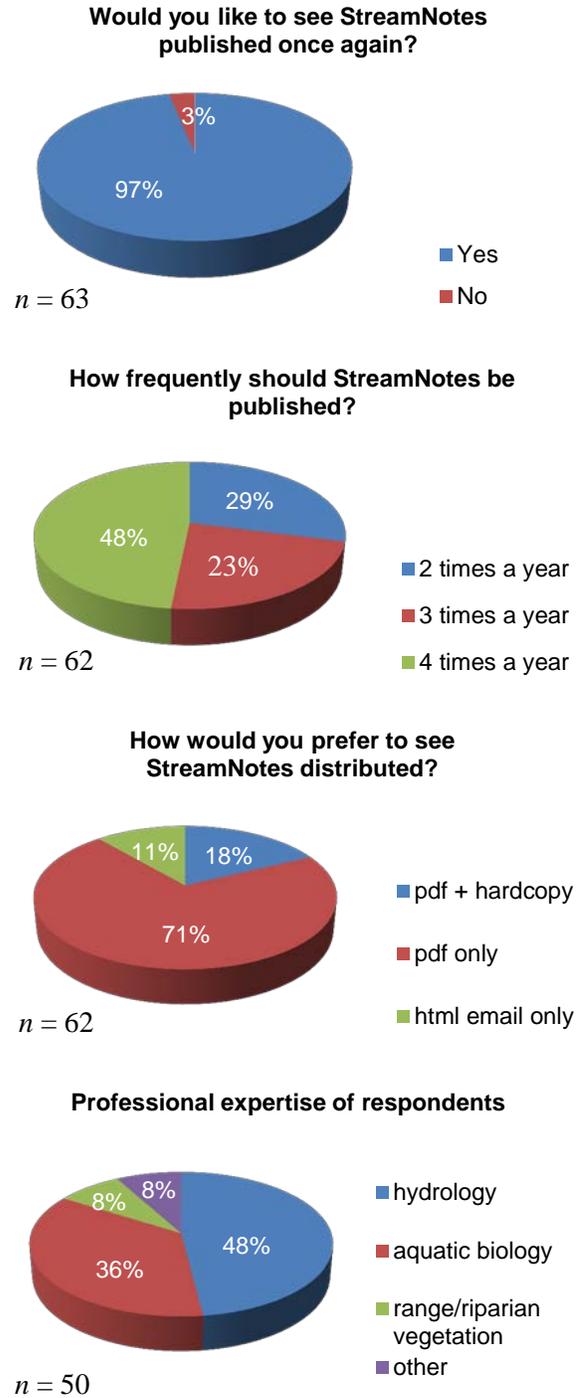
StreamNotes is a technology transfer publication that was formerly published starting in 1992, and was last published during the first quarter of 2012. Survey data were collected to assess the need of U.S. Forest Service field staff for republishing of StreamNotes by the National Stream and Aquatic Ecology Center.

The survey results indicated that renewed publication of StreamNotes is strongly supported by the field and should occur. The revised StreamNotes should be published as a PDF 3 to 4 times per year. The focus should be technology transfer to the field, from both Research & Development and other practitioners. Key items to include would be technical articles, case studies, and stream-related news articles.

### Survey Results

A survey was distributed to field practitioners to collect data for an informed assessment of the merits of renewing the publication of StreamNotes. A summary of the survey results is provided in Figure 1. Key results are the following:

- There is very strong support in the field for publishing StreamNotes once again (97%).
- The majority of potential readers would prefer StreamNotes to be published 3 to 4 times a year.
- Potential readers would prefer StreamNotes to be distributed via a PDF (71%).
- A wide range of stream-related specialists participated in the survey, including hydrologists, fish biologists, and rangeland/riparian specialists.



**Figure 1:** Key findings of StreamNotes survey (January 2015). *n* = number of respondents.



## Suggested Topics

The survey requested respondents to suggest specific topics that they would like to see covered in StreamNotes. It was stated that StreamNotes would cover the general topics of hydrology, fluvial geomorphology, aquatic biology, riparian plant ecology, and climate change. Below is a list of subjects requested by the survey respondents:

- The planned general subject areas
- Case studies from the field, including collaborative projects
- Stream ecology and restoration, and watershed restoration
- Fisheries and aquatic biology, including habitat improvement
- Management and monitoring techniques
- Threatened and endangered species
- Large wood and aquatic organism passage
- NEPA analysis tools
- Groundwater and groundwater-dependent ecosystems
- Land management impacts
- Instream flow needs
- Research and development field applications
- Remote sensing, including LiDAR
- Riparian plant ecology and livestock grazing
- Multiple Indicator Monitoring for riparian areas with grazing
- Invasive species management in riparian areas
- Aquatic systems disturbance resilience
- Projects that the National Stream and Aquatic Ecology Center is working on
- Hot topics
- Contributions from all regions of USFS
- Scientists and practitioner profiles
- Upcoming events and training
- “Ask Doc Hydro”

## Additional Comments

A summary of additional comments provided are as follows:

- Practitioners and management have missed StreamNotes, have been wondering what happened to the publication, and are looking forward to it being published once again.
- The topics need to be well balanced across disciplines and applicable to the field.

- The NSAEC website content needs to be maintained, to compliment StreamNotes.

## PUBLICATION PLAN

Based on the survey responses, as well as the opinions of the authors, the following key points are proposed as a publication plan:

- StreamNotes publication should be reestablished.
- Objective: Facilitating knowledge transfer from research and development (R&D) and field-based success stories to on-the-ground application, through technical articles, case studies, and news articles. Hence, technology transfer would be emphasized from both R&D as well as from other practitioners.
- StreamNotes should have a broader focus than the previous version of the publication. Key topics: hydrology, fluvial geomorphology, aquatic biology, riparian plant ecology, and climate change.
- All topics should have a field application focus.
- Key audience: hydrologists, aquatic biologists, ecologists and range management specialists.
- StreamNotes should be published 3 to 4 times a year, and distributed electronically as a pdf document. Target date for publication of the first edition of the new StreamNotes will be by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of FY15 (June 30<sup>th</sup> 2015).
- Include a “NEWS and NOTICES” section
- Every technical article should have both “KEY FINDINGS” and “LAND MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS” sections, to help communicate practical tools and procedures for land management purposes.
- The primary audience of StreamNotes is expected to be field-based Forest Service personnel. However, it is also expected that non-USFS practitioners will also be interested in the publication. Hence, StreamNotes would have the additional purpose of facilitating technology transfer to partners and other parties.

