A new Montana state record brown trout. In fact, it is now the largest salmonid state record. This fish was caught at Clark Canyon on a jig and minnow with 4 lb test line (possibly a new line class world record).

Date: February 1, 2005, Length: 35.5 inches, Weight: 31 lb 11 oz. Angler: Timmy Johansen, Butte, MTGuide: Joel DeTonancour

FishTales

A Weekly Peek at Fisheries, Aquatic Ecology and Watersheds in the

USDA FOREST SERVICE

February 7 to 11, 2005

Dave Cross –

Most of this week was spent in a staff retreat where we reviewed our work plans, discussed out year funding, and appeals work. Appeals training was provide by Joe Carbone from the EMC staff. Joe did a great job. I also participated in a meeting of the ISIT (Invasive Species Issues Team) to discuss a proposal for a national meeting on invasive species. I coordinated with Jeff Kershner on the agenda for our June meeting here in DC with the RTTF reception. I also met with Jarrad Kosa, fisheries program leader for BLM to share program information and highlights.

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Bill Lorenz –

In addition to the staff retreat discussed above, Chris Knopp, Rick Swanson, Dave Cross and I met with Dr. Nancy Herbert, co-chair of the Rise to the Future Task Force implementation team, to discuss implementation options. I continue to work on Forest Plan appeals.

News from Around the Country

- **Riparian-Wetland Soils (Elizabeth Lewis - BLM)**

  Riparian-wetland soils constitute one of the largest freshwater reservoirs on Earth. They are an important component of both standing water (lentic) systems, such as swamps, marshes, bogs, and running water (lotic) systems such as rivers, streams, and springs. Riparian-wetland areas are the “green zones” or links, between aquatic environments and upland, terrestrial ecosystems. Healthy riparian-wetland areas provide several important ecological functions. These functions include water storage and aquifer recharge, filtering of chemical and organic wastes, sediment trapping, streambank building and maintenance, flow energy dissipation, and primary biotic (vegetation and animal) production.

  Riparian – wetland areas are intimately related to their adjacent waterways since the presence of water for all or part of the growing season is their distinguishing characteristic. In fact, the nature and condition of a riparian-wetland area fundamentally affects the aquatic ecosystem. In addition to water, there are three other essential components of the riparian-wetland areas: soil, vegetation, and landform. In a healthy riparian-wetland ecosystem, the four are in balance and mutually supporting one another.

  Because of the presence of water, riparian-wetlands have soil properties that differ from upland areas. For example, most upland areas are derived from in-place weathering processes and relatively little soil material is derived from offsite sources. In contrast, riparian–wetland soils are constantly changing because of the influx of new material being deposited by different storm events and by overland flow. As a result, great variability in soil types can occur in short distances.

This great variation in soils has an affect on hydrology, vegetation, as well as on erosion and deposition. The soil in streambanks and floodplains, and the substrate under the channel, act as a sponge to retain water. This stored water is released as subsurface water or ground water over time, extending the availability of water in the watershed for a longer period in the summer or recharging the underground aquifer. Water restricting soil types such as clay or hardpans often have impermeable layers that support the water table of standing water riparian-ecosystems. Water movement over, into, and through the soil is what drives hydrology.

Vegetative composition of riparian-wetland areas is also strongly influenced by the amount of moisture and oxygen levels in the soil. For example, the type of riparian-wetland soil, the amount of soil organic matter, the depth to which the water table will rise, the climate, and the season and duration of high water will determine the kinds of plants that will grow in riparian-wetland areas.

Sediment, though necessary in some amounts, must be in balance with the amount of water and vegetation to prevent excessive erosion or deposition. Soils, interacting with geology, water, and vegetation, play a critical role in determining the health and, thus, the rate of erosion and deposition in riparian-wetland areas.

The purpose of this publication is to further the understanding and appreciation of riparian-wetland soils. Specifically, it explores the relationship of these soils to hydrology, vegetation, and erosion or deposition, which is important information for assessing the condition of both lotic and lentic riparian-wetland areas. The information presented was developed cooperatively by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The first section of the publication examines basic soil concepts and landforming processes. While these concepts and processes may be commonly understood by those who have studied soils, they may be helpful to others who are less familiar with this subject and fundamental for understanding the riparian-wetland soil chapters. The last section presents examples of how soil information can be interpreted and applied in understanding, managing, and protecting riparian–wetland soils.

The publication can be found on website:

1) **http://www.or.blm.gov/nrst/**
2) **Click on technical references**
3) **Select TR 1737-19**

Copies are available from:

BLM National Business Center
Printed Materials Distribution Service, BC-652
P.O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225-0047

There is no charge for copies of this publication.

- **Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program Interagency Monitoring Program – Northwest Forest Plan**

Invasive Species Disinfection Protocol

Invasive species are increasingly becoming a matter of concern in the Pacific Northwest. Species such as the New Zealand mud snail have been detected in stream systems of 9 Western states (including Oregon's Columbia River estuary) and are steadily expanding their range. The Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program hereafter referred to as "the program," works in the field across the Northwest Forest Plan area (all federal lands from Point Reyes National Park to the Canadian border and from the Pacific Ocean to the eastern flanks of the Cascade Mountains) in a variety of aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Because of the spatial extent to which the field crews travel, the potential to serve as a vector for exotic species and diseases is great. The program has proactively developed this protocol as a mechanism to reduce the potential for spreading exotic species and diseases. The procedures that follow assume that all appropriate field gear starts each trip into the field in a clean (disinfected) state.

New Zealand mud snails are small (< 5mm) and extremely prolific. Each female broods from 20-120 embryos each year.

<u>Field Crews</u>

Survey crews perform the initial visit to a watershed, surveying multiple sites but remaining within the watershed boundary the entire work stint.

1) At the site: Before leaving the stream all waders, boots, nets and net handles, carried to the site that day, will be rinsed with stream water and any mud or dirt will be scrubbed off with a stiff bristle fingernail brush.

2) At camp: The gear should be hung to dry overnight and rigorously shaken out the next morning to remove any remaining debris/organisms.

3) In Corvallis: The crew disinfects their waders, boots and nets in a standard bleach solution (5ml bleach per 1 liter water).
    a. Fully immerse boots (laces as well), waders, nets and net handles in large tub with bleach solution for a minimum of 2 minutes.

b. Remove gear from tub and lay out or hang up outside for 10 to 15 minutes to remove any excess water. Hang equipment in cages over the break and allow for it to dry for the entire duration (5-6 days) between the field trips.

c. Before packing the bags on departure day, the crew should shake out all the waders, boots and nets to remove any residual mud or debris.

Note: These techniques only apply if the gear will have the full 5-6 days to thoroughly dry between trips in the field. If this is not the case, please refer to the steps below for QAQC and Trend crews.

<u>QAQC, Trend Site and Reconnaissance Crews</u>
Quality control and Trend crews will travel to multiple watersheds during a work stint, sometimes visiting two separate watersheds in one day. These steps will be completed before entering and working in a new watershed.

1) At the site: Before leaving the stream all waders, boots and nets will be rinsed and any mud or dirt will be scrubbed off.

New Zealand mud snails are small enough to be transported in the eyelets of wading boots making it important for crews to fully submerge their boots in the boiling bleach solution.

2) At camp:

a. Bring bleach solution (5ml bleach per 1 liter water) to a rolling boil using a large canning pot and propane burner stand. Completely submerge all surfaces of nets, waders, neoprene booties and boots (making sure not to miss the eyelets of the wading boots). If a piece of gear is too large to fit in the pot, pour boiling water over the gear ensuring all the surfaces have been covered with substantial amounts of the solution. (Boiling water is the best method found that will kill the New Zealand Mud Snail and needs to be done after each site before traveling into the next watershed.)

b. The gear should then be hung to dry overnight and rigorously shaken out the next morning to remove any residual mud or debris.

Vehicles

The tires and undercarriage need to be sprayed off with a high pressure hose (if available, check at a nearby government field station or office) or by going through a car wash.

For QAQC, Trend site and Reconnaissance crews: The vehicle should be cleaned of mud before driving (use a high pressure commercial carwash whenever possible) into the next watershed.

Field Crews: Back in Corvallis the vehicles will be run through a car wash to ensure the undercarriage is clean and free of debris.

Mud transported on vehicles has been proven to carry and be a major cause of spreading multiple species of invasive weeds as well as Sudden Oak Death Syndrome and Port Orford Cedar root rot. Here, an AREMP crew has taken their vehicles to a car wash where they will use high pressure hoses to ensure all mud and debris have been removed from tires and undercarriages.

For more information contact:

Kris Fausti - Field Crew Coordinator
Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program (AREMP)
USDA Forest Service/ USDI Bureau of Land Management
4077 SW Research Way
Corvallis, OR 97333
541-750-7081
kfausti@fs.fed.us

- **Mississippi River Headwaters Reservoirs a Focus for Chippewa NF and US Army Corps of Engineers**

  The Chippewa National Forest is partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to complete a Reservoir Operations Plan Evaluation (ROPE) study on the Upper Mississippi River. The ROPE study will identify an operating plan for the Forest Service- and Corps of Engineers-operated Headwaters Reservoirs on the Upper Mississippi River between Bemidji and St. Paul, MN, with consideration given to flood control, environmental concerns, water supply, tribal trust, recreation, navigation, hydropower, water quality, and other purposes. This plan would then replace the existing operation plans that were last formulated about 40 years ago.

  The headwaters region of the Mississippi River, located in north-central Minnesota (focusing on the river reach from Brainerd to Bemidji), contains a number of reservoirs operated by numerous public and private entities. For example, dams on Leech, Winnibigoshish, Sandy, Pine (Whitefish Chain), Pokegama, and Gull Lakes are operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), and Knutson Dam on Cass Lake is operated by the U.S. Forest Service. Stump Lake Dam is operated by Ottertail Power Company and creates the Lake Bemidji lake chain. Similarly, Minnesota Power operates a power dam on the Prairie River upstream of Aitkin. Mud Lake Dam, located downstream from Leech Lake, is operated primarily for fish and wildlife purposes by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

  Construction of the Corps/Federal dams at each of the six Mississippi River headwaters lakes was authorized by the River and Harbor Acts of June 14, 1880 and August 2, 1882. The original primary purpose for the construction and operation of the Corps dams was to augment low flows for navigation as far south as the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN. Purposes such as maintaining Tribal Trust, providing for flood reduction, recreation, and fish and wildlife conservation have subsequently been added. Knutson Dam is now operated by the Forest Service primarily to maintain lake levels for recreational navigation and environmental purposes.

  The goal of the ROPE study is to revise the current dam operating plans and develop a coordinated system-wide operational plan for implementation by the Corps and the Forest Service, with recommendations for consideration by the non-Federal dam operators. A draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which evaluates operation alternatives, is expected in September 2005, with the final EIS out in January of 2006.

  For more information on the ROPE study, visit the website at:
  www.mvp.usace.army.mil/fl_damage_reduct/default.asp?pageid=143

  Fascinating ROPE Facts
  If you were to put all the water from the Headwater reservoirs into “typical” gallon containers and place them side-by-side they would circle the earth at the equator 1987.8 times.

Regional Roundup: Region 10, Alaska Region
Ron Dunlap - Regional Fisheries Program Leader

Recaptured cutthroat trout showing PIT tag ID number.

Pipeline Lake 5 is one in a group of small lakes along a popular hiking trail on the Cordova Ranger District. The district fish and recreation crews had worked cooperatively for several years to improve the trail and provide better access for cutthroat trout fishing. Unfortunately, the quality of fishing in four of the five lakes declined due to increasing aquatic vegetation and other natural conditions. Pipeline Lake 5 was an isolated, fishless lake without the aquatic vegetation species infesting the other lakes, so it appeared to be a good candidate for stocking. Surveys showed that there was sufficient spawning habitat in the inlet stream, good dissolved oxygen levels in the summer and winter, and relatively high numbers of zooplankton. No amphibians or species of concern are known to inhabit the lake.

Our plan called for capturing 100 wild cutthroat trout from the nearby lakes for five years. This would provide a sufficiently large breeding population without impacting the populations in other systems. The source lakes are interconnected and less than two miles apart, so it is believed that the fish are all of one genetic stock. The stocking plans were submitted to and approved by Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologists and geneticists. The captured fish were inspected for any signs of disease or other abnormalities. Fish selected for transplanting were held in aerated coolers, transported, acclimated to the Pipeline Lake 5 temperatures, PIT tagged, and held overnight in a net pen to check for tag loss and mortality.

Four years of stocking is complete and the project appears to be quite successful. The population has been monitored for the last three years by recapturing the stocked fish with fyke nets. Capture of young of the year fish and untagged older fish show that natural reproduction is occurring. The population estimate is 654-1020 fish (95% CI) for the five-acre lake, which is substantially more than the original 383 stocked fish. Weight data from recaptured PIT tagged fish show rapid growth, so the lake does not appear to be overstocked.

The stocking of Pipeline Lake 5 should help revive the trout fishing in this area, which is important because it provides an alternative fishing experience when the salmon are not running. The improved trail system and the catchability of cutthroat trout also make this

a good place for families with younger children to fish. Now that we know that there is a substantial reproducing population in the lake, we will begin our hook and line monitoring next summer.

Figure 1. The view of Pipeline Lake 5 from the angler access trail.

Figure 2. A cutthroat trout transferee just before being released into Pipeline Lake 5.

Figure 3. Kirsti Jurica and Sean Meade set a fyke net.

Figure 4. A nice recaptured cutthroat trout from Pipeline Lake 5!

Regional Roundup Calendar

Region	Issue
Alaska Region	2/11/05
Northern Region	2/18/05
Rocky Mountain Region	2/25/05
Southwest Region	3/04/05
Intermountain Region	3/11/05
Pacific Southwest Region	3/18/05
Pacific Northwest Region	3/25/05
Southern Region	4/01/05

Migrational Opportunities (Federal job announcements: http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp)

- **Position Announcement:** The Tongass National Forest will be recruiting (Merit Promotion and Demo) for one Fisheries Biologist stationed at the Sitka Ranger District in Sitka, Alaska.

Position Title: Fisheries Biologist, GS-482-9Tour of Duty: Permanent full time.
Duty Station: Sitka, Alaska.

Description of Duties:
This position plays a key role in the functioning of the Sitka Ranger District's Fish and Wildlife programs. While the position is predominantly fisheries, wildlife support is also an important component of the job. Primary duties include: managing a sockeye salmon restoration/enrichment project and overseeing other district fish habitat enhancement, bioenhancement and monitoring projects such as coho salmon monitoring (smolt and adult). Participates in watershed restoration projects including project design, riparian thinning, large woody debris placement and road decommissioning.

Serves as the primary contact for support (biological evaluations, fish/wildlife resource reports) to other district functions such as recreation, lands, timber, and engineering allowing the incumbent an opportunity to see large portions of the district. This work involves conducting or coordinating field reviews of proposed free use wood harvests, and, lands and recreation special use permits. Additionally, this person will also conduct or coordinate fish/wildlife reviews of small timber sales and recreation projects such as hiking and ATV trails. We have developed good working relationships with State, Tribal, and Federal fish, wildlife and water quality management agencies. The incumbent will be expected to maintain these relationships.

Supervises two permanent seasonal employees and serves as crew leader for fish and wildlife habitat improvement projects, habitat inventory, and monitoring programs.

Transportation to and from the field will be either by boat, fixed wing aircraft, or helicopter. The incumbent will be required to operate and maintain boats 17ft. and larger in a marine environment.

All field going employees are required to carry firearms in remote locations for brown bear protection. This position requires the incumbent to carry a firearm and is a condition of employment. Employees authorized to carry firearms are subject to pre-employment and random drug testing. The applicant selected for this position will be required to submit to urinalysis screening for illegal drug use.

Government housing may be available.

INFORMATION ABOUT SITKA RANGER DISTRICT

The district office is located in Sitka, in northern southeast Alaska. Roughly 1.8 million acres in size, the Sitka Ranger District encompasses all of Baranof Island and a large portion of Chichagof Island to the north. Fully staffed, the Sitka Ranger District Fish, Wildlife, Watershed and Subsistence staff is comprised of 2 fisheries biologists, 1 subsistence fisheries biologist, 3 permanent seasonal biological technicians (2 fish, 1 plant), a watershed program manager, 1 permanent seasonal hydrological technician, and a GIS specialist. Some of our current projects include, sockeye salmon restoration, 2 coho salmon bioenhancement projects, coho smolt monitoring, fish pass system maintenance and monitoring, and fish passage/habitat

improvements. Our recreation program manages 2 wilderness areas, 24 recreation cabins and several hiking trails. We have an active silviculture program with an emphasis on managing second growth stands for both timber and wildlife values. Currently, the district is comprised of 44 permanent full time employees with a seasonal staff of 10 to 15 and up to 15 volunteers.

Most of the district is comprised of intact old growth rainforest with over 1000 miles of anadromous streams inhabited by 4 species of Pacific salmon, Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout. Baranof and Chichagof Islands support very healthy populations of Sitka black-tailed deer, and brown bears, with a substantial mountain goat population occurring on Baranof Island. Baranof Island is unique among islands of the Alexander Archipelago, being the only island with glaciers. Kruzof Island is home to a dormant volcano, Mount Edgecumbe, which can be viewed from the city of Sitka.

Sitka is a community of approximately 9,000 residents situated on the west side of Baranof Island in southeast Alaska and is accessible only by air and water. Daily jet service is available to Juneau, Ketchikan and Seattle. Sitka is also serviced by the Alaska Marine Highway System. Service during the winter months is 1 – 2 times per week with 3 – 4 sailings per week during the summer.

Economy – Sitka is home to the Southeast Regional Health Consortium and a United States Coast Guard base, and together employ approximately 700 people. Fishing and fish processing also constitute a sizeable portion of the local economy.

Climate - Sitka has a maritime climate that is characterized by cool summers, mild winters and year-round precipitation. Due to our close proximity to the outer coast, both summer and winter temperatures are moderated by the Gulf of Alaska. Summer temperatures average between 50 and 55 degrees Fahrenheit, with daily maximums occasionally reaching into the 60's in July and August. Lengthy periods of high temperature are rare. Likewise, extremely cold weather is usually of short duration and temperatures rarely fall below 10 degrees. Total rainfall averages 100 inches annually.

Amenities - The city provides a police force, supports a highly trained volunteer fire department, a Search and Rescue group, an ambulance squad, public library and operates a first class harbor and port. Sitka is home to Sheldon Jackson College and Museum, Sitka National Historic Park and the Sitka Tribe of Alaska.

Cost of Living - The cost of living in Sitka is high. Federal employees in Alaska currently receive a tax-free cost of living allowance of 25% of their base salary. This allowance is subject to periodic re-examination.

Housing - Apartment rentals (1 – 3 bedrooms) range from $600 - $1000 per month. Average house rentals range from $1000 - $1500 per month. The average cost of a single family house is about $200,000 with duplexes averaging $190,000. The Sitka Ranger District has 3 residences, two duplexes, a bunkhouses and a trailer court for district and SO employees.

Public Schools – Sitka has 2 elementary schools, a middle school and high school.

Medical – Physicians who are in private medical practice in the community serve Sitka. Resident and visiting physicians also provide regular consultation, treatment and surgical procedures year-round. There are several dentists, chiropractors and a host of alternative practitioners, including massage therapists and acupuncturists. Sitka Community Hospital has well-equipped, modern facilities and offers a full range of medical services.

Recreation - The city itself has several parks, a softball fields, and basketball court. Other recreation opportunities near Sitka include excellent saltwater fishing for king and coho salmon, halibut, rockfish and lingcod. Excellent freshwater fishing opportunities exist for cutthrout trout and Dolly Varden. Several hiking trails are accessible from the Sitka road system.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the GS-482-9 series that is covered by the Professional and Scientific standards. The OPM Qualification Standards Handbook Manual is available for review at any federal personnel office OR on the Internet at http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/index.htm.

Qualifications and time-in grade requirements must be met within 60 calendar days of the closing date of the announcement.

This position is currently being advertised. If you are interested in applying, you should contact Julie Simpson at (907) 747 – 4262 or jasimpson@fs.fed.us. Include your current title, series, and grade.

For information about the position:

Contact Person: Ken Coffin

Phone Number: (907) 747 – 4343

Email address: **kcoffin@fs.fed.us**

If you are interested in the position, please fill out the attached form and send it to Ken Coffin by close of business February 24, 2005.

For more information about the duty station:

http://www.sitka.com/

- Outreach notice: The Coconino National Forest will soon be advertising to fill a PFT GS-0482-11 Fishery Biologist position. The position is located Supervisor's Office in Flagstaff, AZ. This position will be advertised thru Merit Promotion and DEMO.

DUTIES: The position will serve as the professional fishery biologist for Forest, with responsibility for planning, administering, and providing professional expertise in fisheries programs. Provides biological input into the fish habitat management program and assists in development of fishery management plans. This includes gathering, compiling, and analyzing data to determine fish habitat needs; determining key spawning, rearing, and overwintering areas; determining the need for and designing of fish habitat improvement projects; developing project plans for inclusion

in Forest program of work; and studying and recommending solutions to special coordination problems involving fish habitat protection.

Works cooperatively with State, Tribal, and Federal fish and water quality management agencies. This includes gathering information for stream and lake management plans, surveys of fish occurrence, mapping key fish habitat for suitability and determining the need for fish habitat enhancement or restoration.

Participates on or leads interdisciplinary teams for the evaluation of the impact of Forest Service or non-Forest Service activities on National Forest lands, and the development of land management plans. Provides input to Forest plans pertaining to Fisheries Management and Aquatic Resource protection and enhancement.

ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY: The Coconino National Forest is headquartered in Flagstaff, Arizona. Although most people think of Arizona a hot desert, this is certainly not true in Flagstaff. Flagstaff is surrounded by the Coconino National Forest, which is primarily a ponderosa-pine forest.

The main access into Flagstaff is Interstate 40 from the east or west, Interstate 17 from the south and Highway 89 from the North.

ALTITUDE/CLIMATE: Flagstaff lies approximately 7,000 feet above sea level, which brings very mild summers and generally lots of snow in the winter. Freezing temperatures usually occur from the first of October to the middle of May. Average precipitation is 21" per year, with most of this coming in the winter as snow, and in July and August with the monsoon rains. There is a very short growing season, which restricts the amount of vegetables that can be grown locally.

POPULATION: The population of Flagstaff and surrounding area is about 60,000 (1999). It is a fast growing community with increased housing construction every year for the past 10 years.

HOUSING: Government housing is very limited and is primarily for the seasonal workforce. Private housing, rentals, and apartments are available. Single-family home prices usually start around $200,000 and up. Two-bedroom apartments start at around $800.

SCHOOLS: Northern Arizona University (NAU) is located in Flagstaff. NAU is one of three primary universities in the state. It offers degrees in many different fields, including graduate programs. Coconino Community College is also located here and offers many undergraduate courses. Flagstaff has three high schools and several charter schools, private schools, and grade schools.

SHOPPING FACILITIES: Flagstaff has a mall, Barnes and Noble, Target, Walmart, Home Depot, Dillards, Sears, and several drug stores, grocery stores, hardware stores, etc.

MEDICAL FACILITIES: Flagstaff Medical Center is the primary care facility in town. The town hosts a great number of physicians, dentists, specialists (including a mental health hospital and cancer center), and elderly care facilities. The hospital also has numerous ambulances and a life-flight helicopter.

There are numerous optometrists, chiropractors, and veterinarians in the community.

CHURCHES: All religious denominations are well represented in Flagstaff.

RECREATION: There are numerous opportunities for outdoor recreation in Flagstaff, including mountain biking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, cross-country skiing, and down-hill skiing. Several athletic clubs, a non-facility YMCA, and the City of Flagstaff offer organized activities at several facilities, including some with indoor pools. These activities include swimming, soccer, basketball, baseball, softball, gymnastics, dance, and more.

TRANSPORTATION: Flagstaff has a commercial airport serviced by America West. Bus service is provided by Greyhound and train service by Amtrak. There are many car-rental agencies in town as well as a city-transportation system and commercial-cab services.

LIBRARY: There is a community library (at two sites), which also serves the outlying communities with a bus that visits sites on different days. Also, NAU has Cline Library.

MOTELS AND RESTAURANTS: Being located at the junction of two interstates (I-40 and I-17, and being the major community south of the Grand Canyon, makes Flagstaff an ideal location for major corporations to locate both motels and restaurants. A variety of traditional, historic, and suite motels and hotels are available. There is a wide range of available restaurants, including fast food, and American and ethnic food.

CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce Website (www.flagstaff.az.us) or email (chamber@flagstaff.az.us).
Coconino National Forest Website (www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino) or call us at (928) 527-3600.

The Arizona Daily Sun website for local information and housing classifieds (www.azdailysun.com)

For more information on the position, contact Cecelia Overby at (928) 527-3460.

- **Job announcement:** The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) seeking applications for a National Fish Habitat (NFHI) Research Liaison, under cooperative agreement with the USGS Biological Resources Discipline. The Liaison will develop a comprehensive database using existing information on past and current fisheries habitat projects in the United States. The database will be used to develop a NFHI central clearinghouse for methods, protocols, and project designs for the National Fish Habitat Initiative Conservation Plan.

  The successful candidate will follow a work plan developed jointly by the IAFWA and the USGS-BRD Fisheries: Aquatic and Endangered Resources Program. The Liaison will work primarily out of the IAFWA offices in Washington, D.C., in cooperation with the USGS-funded Science and Research Liaison. The position is

available immediately, and is funded for a term not to exceed 12 months from entry onto duty. Salary will be based on qualifications and experience.

For further information, contact:

Dr. Russ Mason
Science and Research Liaison
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 624-5853
rmason@iafwa.org

- **Director Public Lands Initiative**

Trout Unlimited (TU) is seeking to hire a national director for TU's Public Lands Initiative (PLI). The PLI was formed in 2002 primarily to organize TU members and other hunters and anglers in support of balanced, responsible public lands policies and protection. The PLI work is mostly in western states and has three divisions: Oil & Gas work; Roadless Lands Protection and Mining Restoration. Presently the PLI has four full time employees with current plans to double that number. Please refer to: http://publiclands.tu.org/ for complete information on the PLI.

The PLI Director position will involve oversight of the PLI program and its employees. The ideal candidate will have strong organizational, leadership and people skills, be able to delegate responsibility and handle strong personalities. The position will be housed in the western United States (likely co-located with another TU office, if possible). The person should be an articulate and passionate advocate for public land conservation, fishing and hunting, and able to work in collaboration with state and federal agencies, other conservation and environmental groups and industry representatives. The Director must have experience in managing budgets and staff and other attendant administrative requirements, well as experience in fundraising and grant writing.

Candidates must have strong written and public communications skills as well as good computer skills. The ideal candidate should have a college or advanced degree in a relevant field, live in a western state, and have a strong background of fishing and hunting and a love for wild places. Travel will be required. Fundraising experience will also be beneficial. Pay and benefits will be competitive.

If you think you would enjoy the team atmosphere that comes from working for an organization with a strong and broad conservation mission, if you want to ensure that America's last wildlands and watersheds remain intact for future generations, and desire to take advantage of a lifelong love affair

with wild places, then email, fax, or mail your resume, cover letter and salary history to sportsmen@tu.org, Trout Unlimited, Attn: Chris Wood, 1300 North 17th Street, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22209, 703-284-9400 (fax).

- **Out reach notice -** The Gifford Pinchot National Forest is conducting outreach to identify candidates for an exciting and rewarding challenge as the Fishery Biologist at Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument (MSHNVM). The Forest is seeking to fill a permanent, full-time Fishery Biologist GS-0482-11 with a duty station of Amboy, Washington. The position will be advertised soon on the USA Jobs website: http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/

  For more information regarding this position, please contact Karen Thompson, Watershed Resources Manager, at (360) 449-7826, karenmthompson@fs.fed.us; or Cliff Ligons, Monument Manager at (360) 449-7800 cligons@fs.fed.us

Hotlinks:

• Forest Service Fisheries and Aquatic Ecology: http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/fish/index.html
• Fish Your National Forests: http://www.fs.fed.us/fishing/
• National Fish Habitat Initiative (NFHI): http://www.fishhabitat.org
• Large-Scale Watershed Restoration Projects: http://www.fs.fed.us/largewatershedprojects/
• Fish Ecology Unit: http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/fishecology/index.html
• Watershed and Air Management: http://www.fs.fed.us/clean/
• National Fishing and Boating Week: http://www.nationalfishingandboatingweek.org/
• NatureWatch: http://www.fs.fed.us/outdoors/naturewatch/
• Forest Service Research Stations – One stop shopping: http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/index.htm
• Forest Service Research Station - Boise Aquatic Sciences Lab: http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/

Sensory Stimulation:

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

Chineese proverb

New Files for FishTales – FishTales can now be viewed in one of three ways. You can receive it via e-mail or go to our web site where it is available in a pdf or html version.

http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/resources/pubs/fish/fishtales/

FishTales© is a weekly update of activities of the Fisheries and Aquatic Ecology Program of the USDA Forest Service. All information presented is subject to change as projects evolve, opportunities arise and issues unfold. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted to Dave Cross at dcross01@fs.fed.us or Bill Lorenz at blorenz@fs.fed.us no later than close of business on Thursday afternoons. We reserve the right to edit contributions for clarity, brevity, and wherever possible, a dash of silliness and irreverence.

Positions listed are for outreach purposes only and are not full announcements. Interested individuals should contact the forests referenced or consult the USAJOBS website.

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