



This wedge dam creates a plunge pool that provides critical winter habitat for trout in the Slate River, Ottawa National Forest, Michigan. Photo submitted to the WFRP Find-a-photo database by Jerry Edde.

## *FishTales*®

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

**USDA FOREST SERVICE**

*February 22 - 25, 2005*

### **Dave Cross -**

Dave attended a meeting of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

### **Bill Lorenz -**

Last week I participated in a workshop entitled "The Biology of Assessment, Monitoring, and Research of Aquatic Organism Passage at Culverted Road-stream Crossings." The workshop was sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Research Station, Corvallis, Oregon, and had representatives from state and federal agencies, industry, research and Forest Service management. Research needs were identified and commitments were made to produce a guide to aquatic passage prioritization.

Winners have been selected for the Jack Adams, Lloyd Swift Sr., Karl Urban, and BLM/USFS joint Conservation awards. The awards will be presented at the Forest Service Chief and BLM Director's award banquet at the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, March 16-19, 2005 in Arlington, Virginia.

## News from Around the Country

- **Conference on Science and the Northwest Forest Plan: Knowledge Gained Over a Decade** will be held in Portland, OR April 19-20, 2005 at the Jantzen Beach Doubletree Hotel.

In 1994, the Northwest Forest Plan was adopted for almost 25 million acres administered by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and other federal agencies in the range of the northern spotted owl. Since this plan's implementation, scientific understanding about how forests work has increased. For example, more is known about the role of disturbance, resiliency of systems, and biodiversity at broad landscape scales. A specific monitoring effort is underway to evaluate the success of the plan in achieving its objectives based on new scientific knowledge on key topics that include old-growth forest habitat, watersheds, and rural economies. Information from this effort and an overall advance in knowledge will increase understanding of these forests as future management takes place.

The monitoring data and research reports will be published in 2005. A conference in conjunction with the publishing of these reports will allow timely sharing of this information and the overall current state of knowledge about forests within the area of the Northwest Forest Plan.

### Purpose

A 2-day conference will be convened to (1) develop awareness and understanding of science information from the Northwest Forest Plan monitoring programs, (2) describe advances in the state of knowledge over the last decade, and (3) explore policy and management implications of these findings.

### Audience

The conference's audience will be people who make and influence policy and decisions about land management in the Pacific Northwest. The primary audience will be policymakers, land managers, and resource specialists from federal agencies. A secondary audience will include people from universities, state agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and interested publics.

### Content

The conference will provide key findings and advances in the state of knowledge related to the following: northern spotted owl population and habitat, marbled murrelet population and habitat, late-successional old-growth habitat, watershed conditions, and socioeconomic characteristics. Syntheses of scientific information will also be presented on topics such as aquatic conservation strategy, threatened and endangered species, socioeconomic changes, and adaptive management. Management implications and policy options that address this scientific knowledge will be discussed by land managers and policymakers.

**For more information, and on-line registration, go to:**  
<http://outreach.cof.orst.edu/nwforestplan/index.htm>

- **Wildlife, Fisheries, Watershed continuing education opportunities.**  
Endangered Species Act for Line (ESAL) workshop

<http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/education/workshops/ESAL/index.html>

[http://www.lclark.edu/dept/elaw/esal\\_0505.html](http://www.lclark.edu/dept/elaw/esal_0505.html)

We have 6 openings for the "Endangered Species Act for Line" workshop, to be held in Teton Village, Wyoming. Tuition is \$960 (sliding scale tuition; price drops if class is full). Does not include lodging and meals (Lodging is a screaming deal at \$74/night!).

May 2-5, 2005

The ESAL workshop builds on your field knowledge and the Lewis & Clark College program faculty knowledge gained from academic and practical experience. The workshop provides bridges between abstract knowledge and field application, internal agency practice and external expectations, and past and future practices. One reason for coming to a workshop taught by institutions of liberal education such as Lewis & Clark College is to evaluate and discuss what is "best practice."

Some of the TES and recovering species found in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem include bald eagles, trumpeter swans, whooping cranes, peregrine falcons, cutthroat trout, black-footed ferrets, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, gray wolves, grizzly bears. The Tetons/Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem are notable for their spectacular beauty as well as for their threatened and endangered species recovery plans. Wednesday spent in the field making connections between ESA, "best practices" and implementation.

Natural Resource Policy, Values & Economics (NRPVE) workshop

<http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/education/workshops/RPVE/index.html>

We have 5 openings for the "Natural Resource Policy, Values and Economics" workshop, which will be held at University of Georgia, Athens GA.

Now only 1 week long (previously 2 weeks).

Tuition: \$1200 (includes breaks and "full sit down lunch") does not include lodging and other meals.

May 2-6, 2005

A workshop for leaders and thinkers seeing the whole landscape. Why do we go down the certain paths in natural resources? How are decisions made? Objectives & Description:

- describe complex factors involved in policy making
- explain the basic role of economics in management of natural resources
- demonstrate comprehension and appreciation of human value systems that underlie policy making and economics.

Discussion is strongly related to activities on National Forests via case study and interactive exercises. Obviously one week won't make you an economist or policy analysts - but it will help you in understanding and dealing with economic and political influences in natural resource management. Don't be afraid of the "economics" - it is taught in an engaging and interesting way.

To register, email Shelly Witt at [switt01@fs.fed.us](mailto:switt01@fs.fed.us) or call 435-753-4838

- **Right fish wrong state** – A number of readers noted that a recent photo of a record brown trout was incorrectly captioned. The fish was reported captured out of Clark Canyon Reservoir in Montana however, the huge brown trout, all 31 pounds and 11 ounces of it, was actually caught in North Dakota. The fish is the new North Dakota state record and was caught out of the Garrison Dam tail race by Tim Johansen on a jig and minnow on four-pound test line. The 35.5-inch fish broke the old record of 25 pounds, 4 ounces taken by Dean Malenius of Evelyth, Minn. in 1987.

What did we learn from this? First, be skeptical of fish stories that arrive via e-mail, no matter how official they appear. Second, if you want to catch big trout, forget about Montana – fish North Dakota!



## Regional Roundup: Rocky Mountain Region, Regional Fisheries Program Leader Vic Starostka

The last couple of months have been relatively quiet but busy. In January, the Fish, Wildlife, Range and Botany folks met for a week to discuss common interests such as planning coordination, MIS, terrestrial and aquatic assessments, and other topics. This is the first time in a number of years this group met. A number of out-of-Region, presenters participated. Over 100 persons attended and the organizers received rave reviews. The Regional Forester presided over an awards ceremony at an evening social.

This Missouri River blue catfish was captured on the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Region. USFWS photo



I have spent most my time with Budget Coordination for Renewable Resources finalizing the FY05 budget, completing the narrative and numbers for the FY07 budget exercise and continuing work on the FY06 budget. Planning for our annual “Take a Family Fishing” program in June is well under way. This involves 7 other partners and over 100 volunteers. Issues regarding Management Indicator Species continue to be a challenge as is Forest Plan monitoring. CY 2005 will be not only be the Centennial Year for the Forest Service, but a challenging year as well. To date, 19 Centennial Service projects have been received.

Our Species Conservation Project continues to make progress. Four fish and four mollusk peer reviewed species assessments are posted at

<http://fsweb.r2.fs.fed.us/rr/scp/index.shtml>. In the coming months, an addition 20 fishes, 2 mollusks and an insect will be completed.

*Aquatic Ecology – Dave Winters*

The following is a short list of projects I am currently working on

- ✓ Soliciting projects for the Fish Habitat Relationship (FHR) program
- ✓ Presented talks on stream fragmentation and assessment results to the annual Regional Fish, Wildlife and Range workshop
- ✓ Participation on ditch bill issues
- ✓ Worked on the watershed conservation handbook
- ✓ Helped with several graduate student committees
- ✓ Member of the Greenback Cutthroat Recovery Team
- ✓ Member of the Great Plains fishery evaluation Team
- ✓ Preparing assessment documents for the San Juan and GMUG National Forests
- ✓ Soliciting funding to continue our assessment efforts
- ✓ Preparing presentations with Dennis Staley on utilizing Region 2 valley bottom analysis for addressing water influence zone issues in planning
- ✓ Reviewing MIS proposals and various appeals for Forests
- ✓ Developing stream crossing workshop for the upcoming fall
- ✓ Developing conceptual multiple scale monitoring protocols for Region 2
- ✓ Meetings with CSU faculty on the new planning rule
- ✓ Working with OGC on presenting a professional witness seminar for renewable resources
- ✓ Continuing project on the long-term trends of benthic macroinvertebrates community dynamics in relationship to the drought conditions in the South Platte River
- ✓ Aquatics team member for the “linking Colorado Landscapes” initiative

I would like to thank Brett Roper again for participating in our January Fish, Wildlife, Range and Botany Workshop. Great Job Brett!

## 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](http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp))**

- **Vacancy announcement** ADS05-R10-SRD-0128DP GS-0482-09 Fishery Biologist at the Sitka Ranger District, Sitka, Alaska.  
To apply on-line:  
<https://www.avuecentral.com/casting/central/control/redirectApply;jsessionid=0a010037ce62a8dba89f41b4c44b46bccf0fd50842f.ml1Kn6aN-h4UaNaKaxDvq70HmQLPqRfzqwbvq70KaMTvq71ymNaHagaLbxiQc34Pc3eN8OexmkfN-h8xn6jAmljGr5XDqQLvpAe>  
To apply off-line contact Julie Simpson at 907-747-4262 or email at [jasimpson@fs.fed.us](mailto:jasimpson@fs.fed.us).
- **Vacancy announcement** ADS05-R6GP-MSH-006G: Fishery Biologist, GS-0482-11, AMBOY, Washington, has been sent to USAJOBS and has a scheduled open date of February 24, 2005 and close date of March 25, 2005. Upon the open date, the announcement will be accessible at <http://www.avuedigitalservices.com/usfs/applicant.html>, or <http://www.avuecentral.com>. You may view the announcement that was sent by accessing <http://www.avuedigitalservices.com/usfs/ads.html> and entering your manager userid and password. Contact your Servicing Human Resources Office if you have any questions.
- **Outreach: biological technician term position (2 year), Blacksburg, VA**  
The Coldwater Fisheries Research Unit of the Southern Research Station will be hiring a Term Biological Science Technician (Fisheries) to work with the Center for Aquatic Technology Transfer (CATT). The term position will be at the GS-07 level for a period of 2 years, with possibility of a 2 year extension, pending funding, not to exceed 4 years total (\$34,149). The duty station will be located at Blacksburg, VA. The CATT was created in 1995 in response to the growing need for research technologies to be applied directly to management problems. The CATT works cooperatively with universities, National Forests, and local, state, and other federal agencies.

The incumbent will primarily collect and analyze field data and prepare reports (60% field data collection, 40% data analysis/reporting and other duties) regarding the impacts of road-stream crossings on aquatic organism passage on National Forest managed lands in the southern United States. Potential duties include, but are not limited to, (1) training and leading field crews to perform road-stream crossing assessments, (2) equipment preparation and maintenance, (3) data entry and analysis, and (4) report writing and presentations.

Strong candidates for the position will have (1) strong leadership skills, (2) strong written and verbal communication skills, and (3) familiarity and experience with surveying equipment and field data collection techniques for stream habitat, adjacent roads, and biota.

The position will be officially announced/advertised in the near future, with an anticipated starting date of April 2005. If you are interested in this position, please

send a letter of interest and vitae summarizing your qualifications to Craig Roghair, Fisheries Biologist, USDA Forest Service, SRS CATT, 1650 Ramble Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24060 or email to [croghair@fs.fed.us](mailto:croghair@fs.fed.us). Those interested will be sent a copy of the announcement with duties, qualifications required, and application instructions. For more information, contact Craig Roghair at 540 951-1045. The USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity employer.

**Please respond by March 10, 2005.**

**Applicants must be U. S. citizens.**

## *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:*

*"No person can be a great leader unless he takes genuine joy in the successes of those under him. "*

*W.A. Nance*

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](mailto:dcross01@fs.fed.us) or Bill Lorenz at

[blorenz@fs.fed.us](mailto: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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