



I'd rather be fishing! DC

FishTales®

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

USDA FOREST SERVICE

March 28 - April 1, 2005

This is the last issue of FishTales. The Watershed, Fish, Wildlife, Air and Rare Plants Staff is currently exploring options for a new, integrated, newsletter to share news and information across all of our staff resources areas. Look for a survey in the next month seeking your input.

Dave Cross -

This is the last edition of FishTales. As I ponder the last five years of over 200 weekly FishTales editions I would like to celebrate with you some of our accomplishments:

- Through FishTales we embraced and encouraged the participation of forest service fisheries staff in the Hutton Scholarship program as a way of promoting a diverse future workforce. FishTales was instrumental in introducing Forest Service staff and line to this great program and the how, when and with whom to participate in this program. FishTales highlighted the many successes stories of our mentors and scholars.
- In an era of few travel funds FishTales provided a forum that tied our community of professionals, technicians, and partners together. Through FishTales we provided a sense of family and support and encouragement for our field staff and effectively communicated, in a timely manner, information on issues of both local and national importance
- FishTales highlighted District, Forest, and Regional motivational success stories and by sharing these tactics and successes encouraged others to do likewise.
- FishTales took the best of new technology for the management of aquatic resources from where ever we could find it and made it available for our staff and readers to incorporate or adapt into local programs and efforts.
- FishTales has highlighted our premier performers throughout the country each year but especially with our annual Rise to the Future Awards.
- Many of our units are only one deep in aquatic staff; FishTales provided much needed mentoring advice, a sense of belonging and the knowledge that there were others out there dealing with the same alligators and provided an array of contacts for staff to consult with.
- FishTales effectively communicated educational opportunities both internally and externally for Forest Service staff participation.
- FishTales provided our staff and our partners with timely information on promotional opportunities internally and externally.
- FishTales provided an opportunity for Regional Fisheries Programs, on a rotating basis, to highlight and celebrate their local champions and success, and through FishTales, share that pride and success with the rest of our community.
- Weekly we tried to provide us all with a dose of wisdom with our “sensory stimulation” section.
- Finally we have had fun! We have poked fun at ourselves and others in a friendly way, always with the intent of bringing a smile to your face.

Over the years we have had a number of regular contributors here in the Washington Office: Dale Burkett; Mark Hudy; John Epifanio; and Bill Lorenz, my thanks to you all. And so it is with pride in what we have accomplished with FishTales that I close this last edition. I hope that where ever you are your will drink a toast to its success and purpose.

-Best Wishes and Regards to All Our
Readers - Dave

Bill Lorenz -

I worked with a subgroup of the Regional fisheries program leaders to review fisheries and aquatic accomplishment and performance reporting, and continued working on Forest Plan revision appeals.

I joined several members of our Watershed, Fisheries, and Wildlife staff to film a training video on the Environmental Management System (EMS). EMS provides a structure to link our levels of planning (i.e., strategic plan, land management plans and project plans), plan implementation, and adaptive management. It will be a process to check on the environmental effects predicted in NEPA documents, and then independently audit those results. Monitoring key cumulative effects both at multiple scales provides a framework for to identify needed improvements in environmental management, and be accountable for our performance.

Though we can no longer produce FishTales, we still want to hear from you! Please continue to share announcements of training sessions, technical innovations, research findings, annual accomplishment reports, lessons learned from less successful projects, outreach and job announcements, notes on partners and peers deserving of recognition, etc. Keep in touch.



Assistant Fisheries Program Leader Bill Lorenz in Washington Office "field" attire

News from Around the Country

- **The Stream Systems Technology Center has released WinXSPRO Version 3.0. The software and user's manual may be downloaded from the internet at <http://stream.fs.fed.us/publications/winxsp.html>**

Hardy, Thomas; Palavi Panja; and Dean Mathias. 2005. **WinXSPRO, A Channel Cross Section Analyzer, User's Manual, Version 3.0.** Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-147. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 95 p.

ABSTRACT

WinXSPRO is an interactive Windows™ software package designed to analyze stream channel cross section data for geometric, hydraulic, and sediment

transport parameters. WinXSPRO was specifically developed for use in high-gradient streams (gradient > 0.01) and supports four alternative resistance equations for computing boundary roughness and resistance to flow. Cross section input data may be from standard cross section surveys using a rod and level or sag-tape procedures. WinXSPRO allows the user to subdivide the channel cross section into multiple sub-sections and has the ability to vary watersurface slopes with discharge to reflect natural conditions. Analysis options include developing stage discharge relationships, evaluating changes in channel cross-sectional area, and computing sediment transport rates. Resource specialists can use the estimated stream-channel geometry cross section hydraulic characteristics and sediment transport output to assist with channel design and monitoring, instream flow analysis, the restoration of riparian areas, and the placement of instream structures.

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- **Size-Class Pebble Count Analyzer – yet another useful tool from the Stream Systems Technology Center**

[File: Size-Class Pebble Count Analyzer V1 2001.xls \(651 KB\)](#) (updated 5/11/04)
by John Potyondy and Kristin Bunte

This Excel 2000 spreadsheet was developed to assist with the analysis of pebble count data tallied by size class. The spreadsheet helps users estimate sample size, enter field data tallied by size class, produce tables and graphs, and perform statistical analysis using contingency tables and the Pearson chi-squared statistic. After downloading, to execute the spreadsheet users must select "Enable Macros" for the spreadsheet to function properly.

For access to Stream Notes, go to <http://www.stream.fs.fed.us/news/index.html>

The January 2005 issue of Stream Notes covers the following topics:

- A Guide to Identification of Bankfull Stage in the Northeastern U.S.
 - Large Wood for Stream Habitat Restoration in Sand-bed Channels: Harder Than It Looks!
 - A Century of Forest and Wildland Watershed Lessons
-
- **Hutton Scholarships** – This year there are 279 applications for Hutton Scholarships. Selections of this year's candidates will take place this week and will be difficult due the large number of highly qualified applicants. Our best wishes to all the applicants.
 - **What is the NBII?** - The National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) <<http://www.nbii.gov>> is a broad, collaborative program to provide increased access to data and information on the nation's biological resources. The NBII

links diverse, high-quality biological databases, information products, and analytical tools maintained by NBII partners and other contributors in government agencies, academic institutions, non-government organizations, and private industry. NBII partners and collaborators also work on new standards, tools, and technologies that make it easier to find, integrate, and apply biological resources information. Resource managers, scientists, educators, and the general public use the NBII to answer a wide range of questions related to the management, use, or conservation of this nation's biological resources.

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

Fisheries and aquatic resources are economically, ecologically, culturally, and aesthetically important to the nation, yet many of these resources are in decline due to factors such as habitat alteration, degrading water quality, invasive species, water availability, and overharvest. To aid conservation and restoration efforts, the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (FAR) node was established to provide an integrated, comprehensive web-based resource that will: 1) serve and access fishery and aquatic databases, 2) link to fishery and aquatic resource information sites and 3) act as larger scale coordinating site for fisheries and aquatic resources standards.

FishBase of the Americas - FishBase is a searchable global database containing information on over 25,000 fish species. FAR is working with FishBase and InterAmerican Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) to enhance Western Hemisphere fisheries information within FishBase by incorporating regional search capabilities, South American fisheries biodiversity maps, Columbian fisheries information, and translations from English into both Spanish and Portuguese.

Regional Roundup: Intermountain Region, Dan Duffield, Regional Fisheries Program Leader

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

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:

"A fisherman's walk: three steps and overboard."

Marcus Valerius Martial

"Whoever doesn't know the past must have little understanding of the present and no vision of the future."

Joseph S. Raymond

"You can find on the outside only what you possess on the inside."

Adolfo Montiel Ballesteros

La Honda y La Flor

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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