

# Full Stream Ahead

## News and Highlights from Creeks and Communities: A Continuing Strategy for Accelerating Cooperative Riparian Restoration and Management

September-October 2005

### Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge Service Trip

Kelli Stone, Refuge Biologist and Brian DeVries, Refuge Operations Specialist, Alamosa/Monte Vista/Baca National Wildlife Refuge Complex contacted Jay Thompson with the Colorado Riparian Team about introducing the Creeks and Communities approach to the Refuge staff and stakeholders in the San Luis Valley, and helping assess the stretch of the Rio Grande on Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge. Jay worked with the National Riparian Service Team to set up the service trip, and the Colorado Cadre was given the opportunity to work with the NRST.

A situation assessment was done by Laura Van Riper and Mike Lunn in preparation for the service trip. Kelli and Brian set up interviews (stakeholder conversations) with local people who are affected and involved with riparian restoration and uses of water from the Rio Grande, and also subsurface sources of water in the San Luis Valley. Through the stakeholder conversation process, information was identified that helped create the agenda for the service trip, and Laura and Mike were able to explain the Creeks and Communities approach to the Refuge manager, staff and others. This in turn generated interest in attending the workshop and field assessment. It also started people thinking about different approaches and solutions to landscape scale riparian-wetland issues.

Mike Lunn, Janice Staats, Don Prichard, Wayne Elmore, and Forrest Berg traveled to Alamosa, Colorado for the service trip October 4-7, 2005. The visit included a Creeks and Communities/riparian function workshop, 2 field days doing Proper Functioning Condition assessments on the Rio Grande through the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, and a close-out discussion.

In some locations, the Rio Grande is the ownership boundary between the Alamosa Refuge and adjoining private land. Management of the riparian-wetland area on both sides of the river is required for proper functioning condition, thus a collaborative approach is necessary. The people living and working in the San Luis Valley have a wealth of social and human capital so will be able to use both the social and technical information from the service trip for management of the Rio Grande.

Refuge staff expressed interest in updating their photo point monitoring. Hall, F.C. 2001 Ground-Based Photographic Monitoring is a wealth of information about setting up

photo points as well as analyzing the photos for monitoring information. It is located on the web at <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/gtr503>.

At the Riparian Coordination Network Meeting in Reno on November 9, 2005 Kelli gave a presentation on her perspectives of the situation assessment and service trip. You can read more about that in the proceedings from the meeting that will be available on the NRST website early 2006.

### **Riparian and Wetland Classification Review and Application TR 1737-21**

*Riparian and Wetland Classification Review and Application*, TR 1737-21, has been completed and is available by submitting a TR order form (attached below) to Don Prichard.

Karl Gebhardt and Ervin Cowley from the BLM Idaho State Office working with Mike Stevenson from the Coeur d'Alene Field office and Don Prichard from the National Science and Technology Center (NSTC) developed TR 1737-21 which replaces TR 1737-5, *Riparian-Wetland Classification Review*.

The purpose of TR 1737-21 is to provide field offices reasonable ways to define management areas, establish priorities for decision making, determine cost effective strategies for dealing with resource restoration, as well as provide a basis to summarize inventory data into meaningful groups. As with most TR's, a literature search was initiated by the BLM Library (ST-136) at the NSTC in Denver to initiate the development. The ST-135 staff at the NSTC was responsible for the editing, layout, and design.

### **Websites:**

*Stockmanship and Handling Cattle on the Range* by Steve Cote (2004).  
<http://www.grandin.com/behavior/principles/SteveCote.book.html>

*Behavioral Education for Human, Animal, Vegetation and Ecosystem Management*.  
BEHAVE home page. Fred Provenza et al. home page.  
<http://www.behave.net/index.html>

### **Riparian Coordination Network Meeting**

A special addition of FSA will be sent regarding the RCN Meeting held in Reno, NV, Nov. 8-10, 2005.

## **Excellence in Interpretation or Environmental Education Awards**

This is the 10th year BLM has recognized talented employees through the "Excellence in Interpretation or Environmental Education" awards. The awards were presented by BLM Jackson Field Manager Bruce Dawson at the annual National Interpreters Workshop, sponsored by the National Association of Interpretation, in Mobile Alabama.

**Jay Thompson**, a fisheries biologist at the Colorado State Office, and **Ervin Cowley**, a range specialist at the Idaho State Office, won a silver award for their work in the "Creeks and Communities" riparian strategy.

Jay Thompson and Ervin (Erv) Cowley are both outstanding environmental educators in the Bureau of Land Management serving as State Cadre Coordinators implementing the interagency Creeks and Communities strategy in Colorado and Idaho, respectively. The Creeks and Communities strategy was initiated in 1996 by the USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and USDA Forest Service (USFS), in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), for the purpose of accelerating cooperative riparian restoration and management.



**BLM Jackson Field Office Manager Bruce Dawson and award winners Ervin Cowley, Marcia deChadenedes, Jay Thompson, Leah Schrodt, and Wayne Rice at the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) Workshop in Mobile, Alabama November 10.**

November 2005

A strategy for accelerating cooperative riparian restoration and management was initiated in 1996 by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management in corporation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The strategy was designed to integrate the physical, biological, and social dimensions of riparian-wetland management to achieve results for resources and communities. Several documents listed below have been developed to support this strategy and are available to the public. If you desire any of these publications, check the appropriate one(s) and mail this form to:

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
National Science & Technology Center  
Attention: Don Prichard  
Denver Federal Center, Building 50  
P.O. Box 25047  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0047

If you have any questions, call Don Prichard at (303) 236-0162 or write to him at the address listed above. This form can be Faxed to Don at (303) 236-3508 or E-mailed to him at "don\_prichard@blm.gov".

- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-7 "Procedures for Ecological Site Inventory - With Special Reference to Riparian-Wetland Sites"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-8 "GTR-47 Monitoring the Vegetation Resources in Riparian Areas"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-9 "Process for Assessing Proper Functioning Condition"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-10 "The Use of Aerial Photographs to Manage Riparian-Wetland Areas"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-11 "Process for Assessing Proper Functioning Condition for Lentic Riparian-Wetland Areas"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-12 "Using Aerial Photographs to Assess Proper Functioning Condition of Riparian-Wetland Areas"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-14 "Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-15 "A User Guide to Assessing Proper Functioning Condition and the Supporting Science for Lotic Areas"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-16 "A User Guide to Assessing Proper Functioning Condition and the Supporting Science for Lentic Areas"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-17 "A Guide to Managing, Restoring, and Conserving Springs in the Western United States"
- \_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-18 - CD "Managing for Enhancement of Riparian and Wetland

Areas of the Western United States: An Annotated Bibliography"

\_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-19 - "Riparian-Wetland Soils"

\_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-21 - "Riparian and Wetland Classification Review and Application"

\_\_\_\_\_ TR 1737-22- "USFS 0423 1201-SDTDC Riparian Restoration"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_.

AFFILIATION/AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_.

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RM/STE \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

Copies of Creeks and Communities: A Continuing Strategy for Accelerating Cooperative Riparian Restoration and Management can be obtained by contacting the National Riparian Service Team, 3050 NE Third Street, Prineville, OR 97754 or e-mailing Carol Connolly at "carol\_connolly@or.blm.gov".