News and Highlights of Creeks and Communities: A Continuing Strategy for Accelerating Cooperative Riparian Restoration

PFC Database Information Request

The need for electronic storage and analysis of PFC data came up again during a question/answer session at the November 2005 Riparian Coordination Network Meeting. Currently no national PFC database available for BLM or Forest Service.

In May 2006, we sent out an information request to our Riparian Coordination Network email list asking them to forward it to BLM and Forest Service field units who have completed riparian PFC assessments following the procedure outlined in TR1737-15, in order to find out how they are storing and analyzing their PFC data. We received 37 responses. 30 responses answered the questions, and seven had general comments only.

How do you store PFC data?	
Platform & Software	# of responses
Paper file storage only	7
MySQL/VB.NET	1
GIS Attribute Table/Excel	2
GIS	1
GIS based DBF/Shapefile, EGIS	1
ArcGIS/ArcMap	3
ESRI ArcGIS	3
MS Excel/ArcMap	2
MS Excel/ArcView & ArcGIS	1
MS Access/MS Access	5
MS Access/ArcMap	2
MS Access linked to ARIMS & GIS	1
Internet based	1

All the responses have been organized by State. If you are interested in this information, request the Word document from Janice Staats (541-416-6891, <u>janice staats@or.blm.gov</u>). This is not to endorse any particular database, but to share with the network and Federal agencies information about existing PFC databases. We hope this type of information will help fill field unit's immediate need to store and analyze PFC data, and help the agency program managers in their work on national database standards.

TR-1737-20 Coming Soon

Grazing Management Processes and Strategies for Riparian-Wetland Areas (TR 1737-20) will be available this fall. The technical reference will replace the Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas (TR 1737-14) as the riparian grazing reference used by the Riparian Coordination Network (RCN). The implementation of grazing management strategies for riparian-wetland areas and the evaluation of their successes and failures continue to provide valuable information, emphasizing the need to periodically update this grazing management reference.

The new technical reference provides the most current information to further assist livestock operators and land managers in developing successful riparian-wetland grazing management strategies across a wide array of land types. It is also the core document for the Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetlands training course. The training course is periodically conducted by an interagency, interdisciplinary team for a broad audience that includes ranchers; local, county, State, and Federal agencies; and the interested public. (See below for additional information.) Copies will be sent to the RCN and more copies will be available through the Denver Service Center.

2006 Grazing Courses

The Riparian Coordination Network conducted three-day grazing courses for riparian-wetland areas in Patagonia, AZ and Burns, OR this year. Sandy Wyman, Rangeland Management Specialist with the NRST led an interagency, interdisciplinary group of trainers for both sessions.

The Patagonia, AZ session was held April 3-5 and was sponsored by the University of Arizona, Canelo Hills Coalition, and Sierra Vista Ranger District. The group was commended for taking the initiative to move forward in a constructive manner to work together in achieving resource goals on the Redrock Allotment on the Coronado National Forest. The Canelo Hills Coalition has a great start and hopefully will expand their coalition to involve those that can help them move forward to achieve their natural resource and ranching goals and objectives. They acknowledged the need to bring in a broader scope of disciplines to address all resource issues. Of particular interest to the group was the information that Jimmy Eisner presented on the Endangered Species Act about the workings of the consultation process. Jimmy Eisner, Steve Leonard, Mike Lunn, and Floyd Reed assisted with the training.



Figure 1. George Ruyle, U of AZ Range Extension Specialist and Richard Collins, Canelo Hills Coalition explain the grazing management plan on the allotment used for the class exercise to Sandy Wyman, NRST Rangeland Management Specialist.



Figure 2. Larry Howry, U. of AZ Range Professor talks about the monitoring that has been implemented on the class exercise allotment.

2006 Grazing Courses continued...

The Harney County Watershed Council and Harney County Soil and Water Conservation District sponsored a course June 13-15 in Burns, OR. Darren Brumback, Oregon Team member, organized the workshop. This training was used as a mentoring opportunity for the Oregon Team to start conducting grazing courses although they already had a great start with Jimmy Eisner and Mike Borman as charter members of the grazing course cadre since its beginning in 1997. The expanded training group included Jimmy Eisner, Steve Leonard, Wayne Elmore, Bryce Bohn, and Mike Borman. The majority of comments received included the need for more ranchers and other disciplines to take this training to increase understanding of grazing practices and how they affect riparian-wetland areas.



Figure 3. BLM Rangeland Management Specialist, Willie Street explains current and historic grazing management on the allotment used for the class exercise while Darren Brumback and Jimmy Eisner, Fish Biologist hold the map.



Figure 4. Wayne Elmore and Mike Borman discuss plant parts.



Figure 5. Interdisciplinary, interagency groups discuss grazing management alternatives as part of their class exercise.

Want to Request a Grazing Course for 2007?

Now is a good time to start initiating a request to sponsor a grazing course as the NRST will soon be prioritizing training and service trips for FY 2007. If interested, go to http://www.blm.gov/or/programs/nrst/training.htm for a copy of the Call for Sponsorship letter which includes the course outline. As shown, the training is a 3-day format but it can be tailored to meet local needs. The new *Grazing Management Processes and Strategies for Riparian-Wetland Areas* technical reference (TR 1737-20) will replace *Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas* (TR 1737-14) as the primary reference for this course.

Website of Interest

Did you know that Barnes & Noble has a GSA website? Their GSA pricing offers an additional 6% off our everyday low prices plus free standard domestic shipping on all orders. This website can only be used for federal government purchases. Key benefits of shopping on GSA schedule:

- GSA Contract # GS02F0025J
- Additional 6% off site prices plus free standard domestic shipping
- All orders placed on the URL below are automatically tax-exempt
- Over 1 million titles in-stock qualifying Fast&Free titles arrive in 3 business days or less (see site for details)
- Bulk pricing available on orders of 50 or more copies of a single title you must contact them for a quote
- Charge accounts and government issued credit cards are accepted
- Need a price quotation? Contact us at mailto:governmentsales@book.com
- Dedicated GSA Bookstore: www.bn.com/GSA

START SHOPPING ON SCHEDULE NOW: www.bn.com/GSA

Email: mailto:governmentsales@book.com

Phone: (212) 414-6789 Fax: (212) 414-6360

The National Riparian Service Team can be contacted at:



NRST 3050 NE 3rd Street Prineville, Oregon 97754 (541) 416-6700

Email: nrst@or.blm.gov

http://www.blm.gov/or/programs/nrst/