



# *Creeks and Communities:*

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A Continuing Strategy for Accelerating Cooperative Riparian  
Restoration and Management

## **Riparian Coordination Network**

### **Accomplishments FY2006**

(October 2005 – September 2006)

*“Achieving Healthy Streams Through Bringing People Together”*

PREPARED BY  
THE RIPARIAN SERVICE TEAM  
OCTOBER 2006

# Riparian Coordination Network

The interagency Creeks and Communities strategy is a joint effort of Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Forest Service, in cooperation with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). It is implemented by the Riparian Coordination Network which includes the Riparian Service Team, Agency Riparian Program Coordinators, and State Cadres with personnel from federal and state agencies, universities, industry and conservation interests, and the private sector.

## Operating Philosophy

- Increase the capacity of the Riparian Coordination Network to effectively implement the Creeks & Communities Strategy to help individuals, communities, and institutions understand riparian-wetland function, and to confront and resolve complex and contentious issues regarding riparian-wetland resources, in a way that is relevant to people's needs.
- Bring communities of people together to create a common vision for productive and sustainable riparian-wetland conditions, and assist in the development of collaborative management and monitoring plans to achieve this vision.
- Incorporate fundamental concepts from both the biophysical and social dimensions of riparian-wetland management to achieve positive results for resources and communities.
- Ensure program effectiveness through evaluation and adaptation.

## Program Goal and Objectives

Goal: To develop a critical mass of people who interact with and manage riparian-wetland resources based on shared knowledge of the attributes and processes that constitute sustainability.

Objective: Provide individuals and groups of diverse interests and backgrounds with the tools to develop a shared understanding of riparian-wetland function, and assist in developing solutions to management challenges stemming from issues in both the resource and human dimensions.

Objective: Create awareness and understanding of, and interest in, this strategy and invite participation across multiple scales.

Objective: Ensure consistency and effectiveness through activities focusing on program management and accountability.

## Riparian Service Team

- **Ronald Wiley**, Team Leader
- **Carol Connolly**, Public Affairs Specialist
- **Cyndie Hice**, SCEP Information Technology Specialist
- **Susan Holtzman**, Team Coordinator
- **Janice Staats**, Hydrologist
- **Laura Van Riper**, Social Scientist
- **Sandy Wyman**, Rangeland Management Specialist
- **Adjunct Members** with specialized skills in Ecology, Fisheries, Hydrology, Rangelands, and Conflict Management

## Agency Program Coordinators

- **John Christensen**, Washington, DC, and **BLM State Office Riparian Coordinators**
- **Larry Bryant and Rick Swanson**, Washington, DC, and **Forest Service Regional Riparian Coordinators**
- **Dennis Thompson**, Washington, DC, and **NRCS State Riparian Coordinators**

## State and Provincial Team Coordinators

- AZ **Dave Smith**, Flagstaff US Fish and Wildlife Service
- BC **Cori Barraclough**, Aqua-Tex Scientific Consulting Ltd.
- BC **Patrick Lucey**, Aqua-Tex Scientific Consulting Ltd.
- CA **Randy Gould**, USDA Forest Service Pacific SW Region
- CA **Bill Cunningham**, NRCS California State Office
- CA **Lenore Thomas**, BLM California State Office
- CO **Jay Thompson**, BLM Colorado State Office
- ID **Ervin Cowley and Steve Smith**, BLM Idaho State Office
- MT **Mike Philbin**, BLM Montana State Office
- NM **Steve McWilliams**, private citizen
- NV **Sherman Swanson**, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
- OR E **Jim Eisner**, BLM Prineville Field Office
- OR W **Chris Massingill**, Mainstream Consulting
- TX **Steve Nelle, NRCS San Angelo**
- UT **Steve Smith**, Cedar City Ranger District, Dixie National Forest
- UT **Tom Mendenhall**, BLM Utah State Office
- WA E **Vacant**
- WA W **Vacant**
- WY **Mark Gorges**, BLM Wyoming State Office

## CONSULTING AND ADVISORY SERVICES

### Service Trips – Riparian Service Team

- Alamosa Wildlife Refuge, Colorado
  - The team was asked to assist refuge staff in identifying and meeting riparian restoration and management needs on the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge. A pre-trip situation assessment fostered participation of a diverse group from the San Luis Valley. The week began with a Creeks and Communities workshop followed by a collaborative assessment of the stretch of the Rio Grande River that runs through the refuge. Besides a much better understanding of riparian systems, it resulted in people thinking on a bigger scale and connecting with others working above and below the refuge on Rio Grande restoration.
- Challis National Forest, Challis BLM, Bayhorse Allotment, Idaho
  - This was a continuation of the ongoing collaborative work with the Challis Experimental Stewardship Group with previous assistance occurring in 2002 and 2004 covering management and monitoring in riparian areas, including the use of stubble height. This time the focus was on incorporating current condition information and potential condition as a way to guide management and monitoring. Specific discussions centered on the relationship of livestock grazing to existing condition and the development of components of an adaptive management strategy for both Bayhorse Creek and Squaw Creek.
- Big Hole Watershed, Montana
  - To assist in the preparation for outreach and educational activities, the Montana State Team asked the NRST to conduct a situation assessment in the Big Hole watershed in southwest Montana. Through a series of interviews and stakeholder conversations, the information and insights learned from this process were used to tailor workshops and other events specifically to the needs of the area and people.
- Reynolds High School Natural Resources Academy, Dixie Meadow Ranch, Oregon
  - Reynolds High School Natural Resources Academy is located in urban Portland, Oregon. The Breese family in rural Prineville, Oregon hosted a group of students and teachers to learn about ranching, rangeland and timberland management, using their property as an outdoor classroom. The team helped teach concepts about watershed and riparian function, soils, and grazing management.
- Custer National Forest - Phase 2, South Dakota
  - Last year the team was asked to conduct a series of field days to facilitate discussion of Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) assessments and livestock management on low discharge, spring dominated streams. The forest was interested in using the Creeks and Communities approach and as well as PFC to build a broader understanding internally and externally. A pre-service situation assessment helped the team design the assistance to ensure maximum participation which included additional field days teaching and applying the principles and practices with a diverse group to foster collaborative learning doing assessments and collectively developing management and monitoring strategies.
- Plumas National Forest, Mt. Pleasant RNA, California
  - The team was asked to accompany agency staff and others in examining fens in the Mt. Pleasant Research Natural Area and also part of the Bucks Lake Wilderness. They are preparing to develop management plans for both the RNA and the Wilderness. The objective was to synthesize as much information as possible to inform decisions concerning restoration, management and monitoring as well as possible research options.

- John Day River Basin Assessment, Oregon
  - The Prineville BLM, Central Oregon Resource Area requested the NRST provide hydrology expertise for a PFC assessment of lower John Day River providing information in support of the John Day Basin Resource Management Plan and other discussions about riparian conditions and management on the river. The Resource Area personnel and contractor doing the assessments wanted help at the very beginning of the assessment to ensure a reasonable potential was determined, and that the context of how to answer the hydrology items in this large river setting were agreed upon. It was determined that many of the reaches have self-forming depositions even though it is in a confined valley bottom, and the PFC assessment was a helpful exercise to determine the current condition of the river reaches, as well as recovery sequences and time frames.
  
- Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest, Martin Basin Rangeland Project, Nevada
  - The Forest Service was working on the first of a series of EIS's for permit renewal. This process had generated disagreement and concern in the state among federal and state agencies, ranchers and others. The team was asked to convene and assist the various interests confront the areas of conflict and work towards resolution. A community meeting was followed later with time in the field at several locations addressing specific issues. This led to additional field time doing both physical and ecological function assessments with forest personnel, permittees, NV Dept of Ag, University Extension and others, gathering data to determine if the terms and conditions of the Biological Opinion for Lahontan cutthroat trout were being met. Both the process and the information gathered should support adaptive management and subsequent decisions and development of appropriate standards.
  
- Sprague Watershed Field Days, Oregon
  - The NRST is providing assistance as part of the Working Landscapes Alliance in conjunction with Sustainable Northwest, a Portland based non-profit, Klamath Basin Ecosystem Foundation, a local non-profit, people from federal and state agencies in the area, the tribes, cooperative extension and many landowners in an effort to develop interest in, and capacity for, long-term restoration in the watershed. Ongoing activities range from listening sessions to community workshops and field days involving on-the-ground assessments, restoration planning and monitoring.
  
- Lake County Restoration Projects, Oregon
  - The National Riparian Service Team and the OR State Team were asked to assist a diverse group representing the Lake County SWCD, Fremont-Winema National Forest, J-Spear and other ranches, SE OR Resource Advisory Council, several Watershed Councils, Lake County Resources Initiative, Ducks Unlimited and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. Their request was for advice in developing a common vision for restoration supported by options designed to minimize risk and maximize investment.
  
- BLM Malta Field Office, Montana
  - The request was to review the most problematic types of riparian-wetland areas along the Hi-Line and discuss functional attributes and processed to determine in order to reach an interdisciplinary agreement on how best to evaluate them. These areas included seasonal and manipulated potholes, interrupted systems and borderline ephemeral/intermittent streams. The group also focused on how to deal with the "potential" and "capability" of highly altered systems.

## **Ongoing Participation – Riparian Service Team**

DOI Cooperative Conservation Training and Development Working Group  
DOI Cooperative Conservation Measurement and Monitoring Working Group  
DOI Adaptive Management Working Group/Guidebook  
BLM National Monitoring Strategy Task Group  
BLM Socio-Economic Assessment Working Group  
FS Social Measures Working Group

## **Assistance to State Teams – Riparian Service Team**

Utah State Team – Team Leader transition and Moab situation assessment  
California State Team – Coordination support and Plumas NF assistance  
Montana State Team – Big Hole watershed situation assessment and Malta FO assistance  
Oregon State Team – Burns grazing course and Lake County assistance  
Nevada State Team – Santa Rosa Ranger District, Humbolt-Toiyabe NF

## **Review and Advice – Riparian Service Team**

Rocky Mountain Bird Conservancy Riparian Survey Protocol  
Cooperative Monitoring DVD, U of WY  
Riparian research needs to NSTC, Branch of Science Investigation  
Grant proposal for Boy Scouts Merit Badge Proposal (Riparian-Wetland)  
BLM/University of Wisconsin Riparian Education Toolkit  
Williams Prairie Restoration Options – Ochoco NF  
Desired condition statements for riparian resources in Forest Plans – FS Region 4  
OR Watershed Enhancement Board proposed project review  
Central Oregon Field Office Riparian Review  
FS R6 Range Analysis Handbook – select sections  
OR/WA FS/BLM response to Advisory Board for OR State University Rangeland Department  
Draft IM for Implementation of Stubble Height as an indicator  
Draft paper for Rangelands on Cooperative Monitoring  
Draft BLM Award for Cooperative Riparian Restoration

## **Other Projects – Riparian Service Team**

- TR-1737-20 Grazing Management Processes and Strategies for Riparian-Wetland Areas
  - This technical reference is an update TR-14 Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas, featuring the most current information in support of operators and land managers developing successful grazing management strategies across a wide array of land types.
- Riparian Vegetation Monitoring Group
  - A “greenline” clarification document is being developed as a follow-up activity from the work done at Logan, Utah, relative to method comparison and application.

- Forest Service STREAM Team – Headcut Guidance
  - The NRST asked the STREAM Team to develop guidance on headcut assessment and treatment at the urging of the RCN and agency field offices. Coordination and review are ongoing and will continue into FY2007.
- CAMNet and BLM/DOI Case Studies for CEQ
  - The NRST was asked to provide case studies of the Creeks and Communities approach for submission to CEQ in contribution to the development of national guidance on collaboration.
- PFC Database Field Office Survey
  - This was an effort by the NRST to share with the RCN and agency field offices information about existing PFC databases being used as a national PFC database is not available in BLM or FS.
- PFC Database Development Feasibility Working Group
  - The NRST convened a group of field level and WO resource and database personnel to examine the feasibility of developing a database for PFC assessment data in both the BLM and FS. This effort is ongoing with various steps occurring in FY2007.
- BLM Guidebooks for Collaboration and for Working with Non-profit Organizations
  - Preparation of initial drafts at the request of NLCS, Renewable Resources and Planning, the National Partnership Office and the office of Community Stewardship and Adaptive Management, in support of capacity building within the Bureau..
- Wildland Waters Publication
  - Completion and distribution of the Spring 2006 issue featuring Creeks and Communities as a model for fostering cooperative conservation. A publication of the US Forest Service with extensive internal and external distribution, this issue focuses on the human and social dimensions of watershed restoration and understanding the importance of integrating these with the technical aspects to achieve greater success.
- Learning Lab Pilot – FS National Partnership Office
  - The NRST, implementing the Creeks and Communities strategy, was selected as the pilot “Learning Lab” designed to provide people within and outside government an opportunity for experiential learning of a particular collaborative approach. The establishment of “Learning Labs” was one of the activities proposed by an inter-departmental working group chartered to foster cooperative conservation.
- Working Landscapes Alliance
  - The NRST is part of a developing partnership with Sustainable Northwest, a Portland-based non-profit, and others in an effort to provide assistance and support to rangeland and ranching dependent communities through an approach that identifies and addresses ecological, social and economic dimensions.
- Creeks and Communities Implementation Desk Guide
  - Initial draft of a product designed for use by new and established RCN members. It includes sections on strategy orientation and outreach, specific guidance for Agency and State Team Coordinators and State Team members. Also included is a variety of references as well as Train-the-Trainers material.
- Vegetation Consistency Issue
  - Because of differences in interpretation that have surfaced over time, the NRST has convened a working group to establish guidance on answering PFC Checklist items relative to plants and plant communities in order to facilitate consistency in both teaching and applying the PFC assessment method.

## **Service Trips – State Riparian Teams**

### ARIZONA

- In support of agency Riparian Programs, helped initiate and participated in a BLM/FS working group established to determine the feasibility of developing a national PFC database.

### CALIFORNIA

- Participated with the NRST in examining and learning about fens in the Mt. Pleasant RNA in support of developing a management plan and restoration strategy.

### CANADA

- A PFC assessment was done on Bowker Creek (southern Vancouver Island, B.C.), an area extensively developed consisting mostly of residential neighbourhoods, some commercial districts, the University of Victoria campus a golf course and a few small parks. This effort represents a demonstration of a process that could be applied to other streams in the Capital Regional District, as a means to prioritize watershed management and restoration options.

### COLORADO

- Assisted the NRST with planning and arrangements for Service Trip to the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge (Monte Vista, CO) from October 4 – 7, 2005. The trip involved numerous staff from the NWR and members of the San Luis Valley community and focused on resolving riparian issues on the Rio Grande River on the refuge as well as upstream and downstream.

- Members of the Colorado Riparian Training Team conducted a service trip with the Range staff from the White River National Forest on July 19-20, 2006. The Team met with FS staff and local permittees to discuss riparian concerns on an allotment. This involved an overnight stay on site and several hours visiting the allotment and determining strategies for proper livestock management.

### IDAHO

- Provided technical support and problem solving on riparian-wetland issues to BLM field offices in the state of Idaho. Numerous service trips were completed this year to assist with lotic and lentic PFC assessments and problem solving.

### MONTANA

- Participated with the NRST in the Custer National Forest, Sioux Ranger District Phase 2 assistance trip in Camp Crook, South Dakota.

### NEVADA

- Worked with the NRST to help the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest use PFC assessment and root cause analysis to bring focus to use of a stream matrix they developed in support of the EIS for grazing management in the Martin Basin area of the Santa Rosa Ranger District. One objective was to emulate a process they could use in other localities for addressing riparian grazing management through livestock grazing decisions.

- Members of the NV State Team worked to incorporate PFC and included a riparian root cause analysis example in the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook which will come out this fall.

- A State Team member working on behalf of a Conservation District and the Storm Water Permit Committee led a team to complete the bulk of assessments of streams that are tributary to the Truckee River. A subsequent report will assist Washoe County and the cities of Reno and Sparks with pollution abatement projects in support of water quality and TMDLs in the lower Truckee River which has two listed fish species.



## NEW MEXICO

- Consulted with and advised the management of the Valles Caldera National Preserve then conducted a re-assessment of the Preserve using the Proper Functioning Condition method.

## OREGON

- Participated with the NRST in reviewing riparian restoration projects in Lake County.
- Participated with the NRST in the Humbolt-Toiyabe NF, Martin Basin assistance trip.

## UTAH

- Consulted with an interagency group working in the flood damaged Virgin River complex.

## WYOMING

- Participated in field review of riparian condition associated with coal bed natural gas water flowing in naturally ephemeral and intermittent systems.

## **Request for Information / Referrals – Riparian Service Team**

Summary - Responded to approximately 40 requests for information or assistance from a variety of sources, both national and international. Inquiries included the Creeks and Communities approach as well as questions on general context and specifics of adaptive management, assessment, monitoring and restoration. Referrals were also made for additional information and assistance.

## **Training and Workshops that integrate the biophysical and social dimensions of riparian-wetland management**

### **Training and Workshops - Riparian Service Team**

- Biennial Riparian Coordination Network (RCN) Meeting, Nevada
  - These are both developmental and working meetings designed to increase and enhance the ability of the RCN to be effective in both managing and implementing the Creeks and Communities strategy. The aim is to achieve the initiative's objectives and to do so in a way that meets participating agencies' goals. At the request of the RCN, this meeting focused on the human and social dimensions of resource management. Available resources and options for combining efforts were featured through networking and presentations by agency partnership and community collaboration leaders, university specialists, as well as non-governmental organizations.
- WA Department of Ecology, Washington Conservation Corps Training, Washington
  - The WA Conservation Corps is a part of the national AmeriCorps program. Each year crew supervisors and members are trained in riparian function as foundational knowledge in support of the project work they do throughout the state.
- Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas, Arizona and Oregon
  - Arizona – This session was sponsored by the Redrock Watershed Group, Conelo Hills Coalition, and University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. The Conelo Hills Coalition is comprised of local ranchers who are working together to address resource issues, such as threatened and endangered species, and maintain economical and ecologically viable livestock operations. They chose the Coronado National Forest for the field exercise.
  - Oregon – This session was sponsored by the Harney County Watershed Council and Harney County Soil and Water Conservation District. Besides supporting community learning to improve riparian resources, it served to mentor the OR State Team as they plan to begin offering and instructing this course statewide.

- Sprague Watershed Creeks and Communities Workshop, Oregon
  - The NRST is providing assistance as part of the Working Landscapes Alliance in conjunction with Sustainable Northwest, a Portland based non-profit, Klamath Basin Ecosystem Foundation, a local non-profit, people from federal and state agencies in the area, the tribes, cooperative extension and many landowners in an effort to develop interest in, and capacity for, long-term restoration in the watershed. Ongoing activities range from listening sessions to community workshops and field days involving on-the-ground assessments, restoration planning and monitoring.
- Plumas National Forest PFC Training, California
  - The Forest is implementing a strategy for completing grazing allotment NEPA using the Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) assessment method in accordance with guidance found in the 2004 Sierra Nevada Framework. The NRST and members of the CA State Team provided training with an emphasis on using PFC as intended, i.e., done by an interdisciplinary team with participation of interested stakeholders.
- Shasta Valley Creeks and Communities Riparian Workshop, California
  - This was part of a series of ongoing efforts being initiated by the Shasta Valley RCD and CA Game and Fish and ranchers to address concerns with the Incidental Take Permit process and restoration activities relative to recovery of Coho salmon.

## **Training and Workshops - State Riparian Teams**

### ARIZONA

- PFC training in Kingman
- PFC training in Springerville

### CALIFORNIA

- PFC training in Graeagle with NRST

### COLORADO

- PFC workshop in Denver, June 13-14, 2006, 27 attendees.
- PFC workshop in Edwards, July 18-19, 2006, 25 attendees.
- PFC workshop in Alamosa, August 8-9, 2006, 18 attendees.

### IDAHO

- Two, 2-day lotic PFC training sessions – Mountain Home and Idaho Falls. Total attendance for both sessions was 22 people from various state and federal agencies and private affiliations.
- A 1.5 day PFC training session for the University of Idaho range department in October 2005 – total attendance was about 25 students.
- Assisted in the revision of the “Monitoring Streambanks and Riparian Vegetation -- Multiple Indicators” protocol and presented 5 training sessions and numerous service trips on this protocol in 2006. Participants in these sessions were from several different agencies as well as private individuals.

### MONTANA

- Big Hole Valley - PFC and Introduction to Riparian Grazing, following situation assessment by NRST
- Helena - PFC training
- HI-Line Regions - A combination lentic/lotic “problem area” workshop hosted by the BLM and supported by NRST with assistance from the Montana/Dakotas State Team. A trip report was also completed.

## NEVADA

- PFC training in Winnemucca
- PFC training in Nixon sponsored by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
- PFC training at the Cottonwood Ranch in Elko County
- Abbreviated training at the Nevada Youth Range Camp

## NEW MEXICO

- Conducted a 3.5 day training session on the Creeks and Communities Strategy, including PFC and riparian vegetation monitoring, integrating the biophysical and social dimensions of riparian/wetland management. Sponsored by the NM Riparian Council, this training had students from a variety of agencies, private entities, and conservation groups.

## OREGON

- PFC training in Grants Pass
- Riparian Grazing training with NRST in Burns
- PFC training for Central Oregon Community College in Bend

## TEXAS

- Women of the Land Workshop, Johnson City - showing female landowners about riparian dynamics with emphasis on vegetation and grazing and how function provides values.
- Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Assoc, Spring Field Day, San Angelo - showing landowners the effects of managed and un-managed grazing on riparian vegetation and the benefits that accrue thru specialized grazing techniques.
- Texas Riparian Association Workshop, Hunt - a full day program on Riparian Basics showing effects of human recreational stress on riparian areas.
- Boy Scout Workshop, San Angelo - showing young boys the connection between creek health and riparian and watershed management.

## UTAH

- PFC training in Kanab at the Grand-Staircase Escalante National Monument Visitor's Center and the Kanab BLM Field Station. Attendees were a mix of disciplines and agencies including range, hydrology, biology, and botany from the BLM, university extension services, state water quality, National Park Service, and private contractors.
- PFC training for the Utah Watershed Coordinator Council in Salt Lake City.

## WYOMING

- PFC training in Buffalo
- PFC training for biology class at Western WY Community College

# **CREATE AWARENESS, UNDERSTANDING, AND INTEREST**

## **Briefings, Presentations, and Key Contacts – Riparian Service Team**

Briefing paper and materials to FS Region 3 contact  
Strategy and Riparian Coordination Network information to FS Region 2  
Great Basin Restoration Initiative Coordinator  
Quivira Coalition Annual Conference  
BLM NACD Coordinator  
Willow Creek Watershed Council, Central Oregon

NACD National Conference  
Sustainable Northwest Executive Director  
BLM L Street Office Multi-staff Briefings  
BLM Director Kathleen Clarke  
DOI Assistant Secretary Lynn Scarlett, Senior Advisor Bob Lamb  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
BLM National Landscape Conservation System Director  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
Philanthropy Roundtable Advisor Alec Ecols  
JR Kaplan Foundation  
JS Noyes Foundation Sustainable Ag Program  
Boone and Crockett Club  
Interagency Restoration Committee of Alaska/American Water Resources Association  
Agency and community briefings in Anchorage  
US Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, Larry Fisher  
Oregon State University, Gregg Walker  
Society for Range Management Annual Meeting  
Association of Partners for Public Lands National Meeting  
FS Region 4 Integrated Resource Workshop  
BLM National Public Affairs Meeting  
NRCS East National Technical Support Center  
NRCS West National Technical Support Center  
Washington Association of Resource Conservation District Employees  
AWRA Summer Specialty Conference on Adaptive Management  
Sonoran Institute  
Northern Arizona University  
OR Chapter of the Society of Soil Science Society  
CAMNet – Collaborative Adaptive Management Network

## **Briefings, Presentations, and Key Contacts – State Riparian Teams**

### ALASKA

- Set up NRST/C&C briefings and presentations for a wide variety of organizations, state and federal agencies, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, environmental groups, watershed councils and private businesses and individuals.

### IDAHO

- Built a new state database of interested groups and key contacts (Idaho C & C Network) and developed new acquaintances with specific NGOs (conservation and special interest groups) as a part of this effort. Based on response to the announcement, it is clear that the brochure was disseminated very widely in the state.

### MONTANA

- Presentation at the MT Watershed Coordinating Council Retreat (Watershed Group Coordinators) providing outreach to many potential partners.  
- Updated key contact lists for BLM, USFS, NRCS, MTDEQ, MT-DNRC, MT-NHP, MT-FWP, MT-Wetland Legacy, MT-DOT, MT Watershed Groups (44 groups), and the MT Wetland Council.

## NEVADA

- Resource Advisory Council Subgroup for collaboration regarding the new Winnemucca District RMP and EIS.
- Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition Science Committee
- Grazing Riparian Areas presentation at the Indian Agricultural and Environment Summit in Reno
- Rangeland monitoring workshops at UNR Gund Ranch and Cottonwood Ranch
- Range Management School (interagency) in Eureka, Fallon, Winnemucca, Ely, and Elko
- Nevada Water Resources Association meeting presentation and poster

## NEW MEXICO

- Attended meeting with groups such as the Quivira Coalition and the NM Riparian Council.
- Provided poster display up most of the spring and summer at local State Park in Albuquerque highlighting the C&C strategy.
- Through contacts, Forest Service, BLM, NRCS, and USFWS are aware of the Creeks and Community strategy at the State and Regional level.

## OREGON

- Field Day presentation for Central Oregon Community College Rangeland Watershed class.

## TEXAS

- Big Country Farm Show, Abilene - showing area ranchers about the critical role of riparian vegetation and how riparian fencing and short term exclusion is one method of restoring riparian function.
- Testimony to the Governors Task Force on Environmental Flows, Austin - presentation emphasized the relationship of land stewardship to healthy and abundant waters and the possibility of storing large volumes of water in riparian areas for sustained base flows.

## UTAH

- C&C presentation at the Utah Watershed Coordinator Council meeting in Richfield.
- The Forest Service coordinator briefed the Utah DEQ staff regarding the Creeks and Communities program. Key UDEQ staff included TMDL and watershed council coordinators.
- The BLM coordinator briefed the Renewable Resources Branch of the Utah State Office on several occasions throughout the year updating the Branch of activities and functions.

## WYOMING

- Team report at the C&C biennial meeting
- Technology demonstrations of the White Valley/Green Valley flow patterns.
- Contacted National Geographic and NPR's Science Friday as possible venues for C&C

## **Products to Market and Implement the Strategy – Riparian Service Team**

Full Stream Ahead newsletter and NRST website  
Creeks and Communities power point presentations and handouts

## **Products to Market and Implement the Strategy – State Riparian Teams**

### IDAHO

- Drafted and disseminated a new color announcement brochure to all key contacts in Idaho to advertise opportunities and services provided by the Idaho Riparian Team.

## MONTANA

- Updated flyer and CD both of which include information on the C&C strategy and the MT State Team, 50 CD's were distributed at the training sessions.

## TEXAS

- Worked with The Nature Conservancy to publish a booklet titled "Streamside Management in the Hill Country – An Edwards Plateau Landowners Guide" that makes the connection between riparian management and riparian values.

## WYOMING

- Provided working models of the White Valley/Green Valley educational tools to a Klamath Basin group and NRST.

# **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

## **Planning and Coordination**

NRST coordination - weekly  
NRST work planning meetings - quarterly  
BLM WO-220 conference calls – weekly  
BLM Riparian Program conference calls – quarterly  
FS Riparian Program conference calls – varied  
FS Range Program conference calls – monthly  
BLM and FS Partnership Office program coordination  
BLM National Science and Technology Center planning and coordination  
BLM National Training Center planning and coordination  
BLM/FS Interagency Budget Cooperative Agreement  
Riparian Coordination Network Biennial Meeting (Nov 2007) initial planning  
Master Contract for Multiple Disciplines – administration and tracking  
BLM WO-220 PART Analysis and Efficiency Study

## **Planning and Coordination – State Riparian Teams**

### ALASKA

- Began work with BLM National Training Center and National Science and Technology Center to schedule the Aerial Photo/PFC Training Course in FY07.  
- Coordinated with local groups and agency contacts in Anchorage and Fairbanks interested in C&C.

### CALIFORNIA

- Coordination with the Mechoopda Tribe for FY07 training.  
- Coordination with Tahoe NF for PFC training.

### COLORADO

- Added Terri Skadeland, Wildlife Biologist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to the Colorado Team in October 2006.  
- Added Kelli Stone, Wildlife Biologist with the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge to the Colorado Team in October 2006.

## NEW MEXICO

- Recruited the second Forest Service representative for the State Team and expanded the mix of agencies within to include the USFWS. State Team now includes 2 members each from the FS, NRCS, BLM, 4 federal retirees (1 FS, 2 NRCS, 1 BLM) staying with the effort (gratis), USFWS as a new member, and State Lands as a non-federal presence.
- 2007 planning meeting set for November 1.
- Coordinating with Sul Ross State University for session in Alpine, TX in April 07.

## TEXAS

- Coordination with The Nature Conservancy and the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative Coordinator to sponsor training in FY07.
- Coordination with the NRCS State Office to consider additional activities and formation of a TX State Team

\*\*State Teams completed FY2006-2007 Work Plans at the Nov 2005 Network Meeting.

## **Reporting**

NRST 2007 Program of Work Synopsis  
FY2006 Riparian Coordination Network Accomplishment Report

## **Evaluation**

Planning has been initiated on what will be an OMB approved evaluation of the effectiveness of the changes implemented since the first evaluation and subsequent revision of the strategic plan in 2002. Discussions have included objectives and scope, and effort has also been given to researching options for accomplishment.

## **Leveraging Resources**

Approximately 1/3 to 1/2 of activities accomplished with some contribution of outside funding.