



Creeks and Communities:

A Continuing Strategy for Accelerating Cooperative Riparian Restoration and Management

Creeks and Communities Network

Accomplishments FY2009

(October 2008 – September 2009)

“Achieving Healthy Streams Through Bringing People Together”

PREPARED BY
THE RIPARIAN SERVICE TEAM
NOVEMBER 2009

Creeks and Communities 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 Creeks and Communities Network which includes the Riparian Service Team, State Riparian Teams and Agency Coordinators, with personnel from federal and state agencies, universities, industry and conservation interests, and the private sector.

Operating Philosophy

- Increase the capacity of the Network to effectively implement the Creeks and 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

- **Steve Smith**, Team Leader
- **Carol Connolly**, Public Affairs Specialist
- **Susan Holtzman**, Team Coordinator
- **Janice Staats**, Hydrologist
- **Laura Van Riper**, Social Scientist
- **Sandy Wyman**, Rangeland Management Specialist
- **Adjunct Team Members** with specialized skills in Ecology, Fisheries, Wildlife, Hydrology, Forestry, Rangelands, and Conflict Management

Agency Program Coordinators

- **Gordon Toevs**, Washington, DC, and **BLM State Office Riparian Coordinators**
- **Ralph Giffen and Rick Swanson**, Washington, DC, and **Forest Service Regional Riparian Coordinators**
- **Dennis Thompson**, Washington, DC, **Bruce Newton**, **Gene Fults**, West National Technology Support Center, 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 **Dave Weixelman**, USDA Forest Service Pacific SW Region
- CO **Jay Thompson**, BLM Colorado State Office
- ID **Bryce Bohn**, BLM Idaho State Office
- MT **Mike Philbin**, BLM Montana State Office
- NM **Steve McWilliams**, private citizen (FS retired)
- NV **Sherm Swanson**, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
- OR E **Jim Eisner**, BLM Prineville Field Office
- OR W **Vacant**
- TX **Russell Castro**, NRCS Texas State Office
- UT **Justin Jimenez**, BLM Utah State Office
- UT **Mark Petersen**, Utah Farm Bureau
- WA E **Vacant**
- WA W **Vacant**
- WY **Mark Gorges**, BLM Wyoming State Office

CONSULTING AND ADVISORY SERVICES

Service Trips – Riparian Service Team

The Creeks and Communities strategy represents an innovative and adaptive approach aimed at building capacity of land managers and stakeholders to address complex and often contentious issues inherent in managing riparian resources. Service trips are a combination of training and place-based problem solving efforts that are designed to deal with the technical dimensions of riparian related issues while at the same time recognizing and addressing the social context in which these issues exist.

- Malheur National Forest/Grant County – OR
 - Over the years, issues of livestock grazing and fish habitat have been at the core of conflict in the John Day community leading to continuous litigation, strained relationships and overall lack of trust between the various interests. The NRST had been working to encourage action by both the Malheur National Forest and the Grant County Court toward initiating a collaboration approach to deal with this long-standing conflict. A situation assessment was conducted to inform decisions on moving forward with efforts to begin creating a shift in community relationships and how they address issues surrounding public (and private) land grazing. In 2009, a riparian workshop was sponsored by the Prairie City RD to examine previous assessment results, current conditions, and livestock grazing options. Later, the NRST provided input to a draft allotment NEPA document. In addition, a community stakeholder meeting was held to examine people's willingness to work collaboratively on riparian grazing/fish habitat issues into the future.
- Ranching Heritage Alliance (RHA) /Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest – AZ
 - The RHA was formed by a group of permittees concerned about increasing conflict relative to livestock grazing on the National Forest. Working closely with University of AZ Cooperative Extension, the Forest Service and USFWS, they organized with the objective of being proactive through creating learning opportunities and inviting dialog among diverse interests to develop novel solutions to resource issues through collaboration. A riparian grazing course in 2008 led the RHA to ask the NRST for assistance in this process and to help further education in the technical aspects of riparian management. Activities in 2009 included a consensus building workshop, training in riparian assessment, followed by a riparian monitoring workshop.
- Antimony Creek Watershed, Dixie NF - UT
 - The NRST was asked by the District Ranger to assist in three ways; development of a collaborative approach to working with stakeholders, assessment of riparian conditions, and beginning work towards addressing any issues and opportunities that arise. In 2008, a situation assessment was completed leading to a community workshop and riparian assessment to facilitate collaborative improvement of the watershed, with a report of results and recommendations. In 2009, a follow-up field day was conducted to revisit the issues and sites of concern.
- Ruby Mountains RD, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF - NV
 - The NRST, NV State Riparian Team, and the Forest Service initiated development of a proposal for a collaborative effort to address riparian assessment and management in the Ruby Mountains District in support of the allotment NEPA process. A community meeting was held to introduce the Creeks and Communities approach and discuss the idea of trying it on a pilot area within the District. In preparation, a PFC/Aerial Photography workshop was held and an additional stakeholder meeting to talk more about the process that would be employed.

BLM National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) Learning Lab

The NRST has entered into an agreement with the NLCS and BLM's National Partnership Office to provide a 'Learning Lab' in order to build capacity for collaborative problem solving on NLCS units using the Creeks and Communities approach. Individuals on NLCS units are being mentored in the multi-phased framework while dealing with an actual riparian issue (learning by doing).

- Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument - UT
 - Interdisciplinary staff asked for assistance assessing intermittent and flashy southwest systems using the proper functioning condition (PFC) assessment method. The NRST, NOC, and State Riparian Team conducted a workshop and field site visits including key stakeholders.
- Black Rock Desert/High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area - NV
 - The NRST has been asked to deal with conflicts over the condition of springs and associated meadows and their use by horses, big horn sheep, livestock and an endangered snail. Work in FY08 included attendance at a meeting of the Resource Advisory Council to learn more about the situation and provide orientation to the NRST approach. A full situation assessment was completed in 2009 followed by a community workshop attended by diverse interests. The NCA and Friends group committed to working cooperatively on spring inventory.
- Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument – MT
 - There has been long standing disagreement with some of the Monument users on the condition and appropriate use of the riparian resources. The NRST conducted a situation assessment and prepared a written report that was shared with all those participating. This was followed by a community workshop for the purpose of creating a climate for current and future work that enables managers and the many involved publics to engage more effectively. The workshop resulted in several agreed upon action items and planning began for community workshops and assessments.
- Canyon of the Ancients National Monument - CO
 - The NRST was asked to coach BLM and FS interdisciplinary teams with assessment of the intermittent, interrupted and flashy systems characteristic of the southwest. In addition, stakeholder involvement was important in advancing understanding of agency management direction. Initial planning for workshops and field site visits were completed and scheduled for September 2009, but postponed until 2010.

Working Landscapes Alliance

The NRST, at times, partners with Sustainable Northwest, a Portland-based non-profit, and others in the private sector to provide assistance and support to rangeland and ranching dependent communities through an approach that identifies and addresses ecological, social and economic dimensions and applies the Creeks and Communities principles and practices. The intent is to focus on several geographic areas over a period of time to affect positive results for resources and communities.

- Sprague Valley, Klamath Basin - OR
 - The WLA has established productive working relationships with many entities in the basin facilitating increased understanding that leads to improved management and restoration of riparian resources. Input and clarification was provided to the Klamath Watershed Partnership on content and revisions of the Lower Sprague/Lower Williamson Rivers Watershed Assessment based on previous work on the Upper Sprague Watershed Assessment. Work continues with the tribes, agencies, landowners, and OR

State University, expanding riparian monitoring (greenline, cross sections and woody regeneration) to numerous sites along the Sprague and Wood Rivers and initiating steps at developing a riparian classification as part of the monitoring effort.

- Three Rivers Alliance - CO
 - The Three Rivers Alliance is a landowner-based non-profit organization focused on promoting incentives and education for improving wildlife habitat and range conditions on private land in the Republican River Basin. A situation assessment led to a consensus building workshop with community stakeholders to explore the role this newly formed group might best fill to deal with the emerging issues of water use and supply associated with the Ogallala aquifer.
- Nueces River Authority – TX
 - Through success in securing grants, the Nueces River Authority has implemented a program to develop a ‘Riparian Network’ of landowners throughout the watershed interested in learning about and managing their riparian resources in a more informed manner to ensure sustainable conditions. WLA conducted spring and fall riparian function workshops, provided review of educational materials being developed and distributed, and offered advice and guidance for conducting a formal program evaluation. Capacity building focused on landowners and technical specialists in NRCS, Texas Parks & Wildlife, and University Extension.
- Crook County Natural Resources Planning Committee – OR
 - The WLA is participating in community activities addressing allocation of the water behind Bowman Dam in the Prineville reservoir, the condition of the Crooked River, and reintroduction of steelhead. A situation assessment was completed with report sent to stakeholders and a community meeting was held to discuss findings and a community workshop regarding water management relative to power and fish production.
- Deschutes River Conservancy - OR
 - Provide expertise to the Board of Directors and partners relative to a water issues and conservation projects within the Basin.
- Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition
 - WLA is part of the working group focusing on policy to facilitate sustainable rangelands and ranching.

Review and Advice – Riparian Service Team

- Riparian Ecological Site Description Development
- Forest Service Draft Rangeland Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring Handbook
- BLM Adaptive Management Learning Lab Handbook
- BLM Alternative Dispute Field Guide
- BLM AWP Directives for ADR/Conflict Prevention
- BLM Aquatic/Riparian Database Development
- Lost River Ranger District, Salmon-Challis NF draft monitoring plan
- Bridge Creek Restoration Project
- Draft Stability Index Paper for Texas

Assistance to State Teams – Riparian Service Team

Arizona – Safford PFC

BC Canada – Advice to BC Team and Premier’s Office personnel regarding formation of BC riparian service team and network.

California – Provided MIM training in Truckee; provided support for NRCS team member to hold the Santa Ynez PFC workshop.

Colorado – Provided MIM training in Glenwood Springs; initial steps for coaching on the Canyon of the Ancients NM (see NLCS).

Idaho – Provided advice and guidance to new Idaho State Riparian Team Leader.

Montana – Arranged for assistance with North Dakota PFC training - postponed

Nevada – Assistance with riparian grazing training in Winnemucca; working with Forest Service on developing a collaborative process in support of range NEPA on the Ruby Mountains RD, H-T NF.

New Mexico – Sent materials for conference display.

Oregon - Assistance with recruitment of new team members

Texas – Planning for Lubbock workshops, briefed Don Gohmert, NRCS State Conservationist, mentored several team members at other workshops, reviewed stability index draft.

Utah – Coordinated with co-lead on Antimony follow-up trip, participated in Sevier R. assessment.

Wyoming – Provided feedback during initial dialog regarding assistance for Pinedale FO.

Other Projects – Riparian Service Team

- A Progress Report on the Creeks and Communities Strategy
 - Published a report that covers the first 5 years following the strategy revision. The document provides a description of the Creeks and Communities strategy, a summary of Network activities, detailed case studies conveying the application of the principles and practices that characterize the strategy, and a synopsis of all service trip activities undertaken by the Network from 2003 through 2007.
- Creeks and Communities Network Biennial Meeting
 - Initiated planning for the March 2010 meeting. These are both developmental and working meetings designed to increase and enhance the ability of the Network to be effective in both managing and implementing the Creeks and Communities strategy. Preparation included a series of inquiries to Network members for feedback on meeting content and design. The agenda was developed and the meeting approval package submitted and processed.
- Capability/Potential Work Group
 - The NRST convened a work group to provide clarification and additional guidance relative to application of the concepts of capability and potential when doing and teaching the PFC assessment method. Presentations and feedback at the 2008 Network Meeting led to some changes; however, no final product resulted. This will be a key element in the next revision of the PFC technical references.
- A Guide for Understanding and Implementing Creeks and Communities
 - The intent of this document is to provide understanding of, and guidance for, implementing the Creeks and Communities strategy. It gives an explanation of the principles and practices outlined in the strategy and insight into the operating framework established for this approach, including an introduction to a variety of tools and methods. The first draft was completed and distributed and Network responses received and incorporated in FY08. Additional edits were completed in FY09 and submitted to the National Operations Center for review.

- Land Health Coordination Network Concept Paper
 - The NRST was asked by the BLM WO to draft a concept paper for addressing land health understanding and assessment based on the Creeks and Communities/NRST model for addressing riparian resources.
- Riparian Ecology and Riparian Vegetation Monitoring Course Development
 - Interest and need led to the formation of design teams to create two courses that will be offered and coordinated through BLM's National Training Center. Curriculum design and the development of course material is ongoing. A pilot session of the Riparian Ecology course was held and reviews are being evaluated.
- BLM Riparian Program, Creeks & Communities, Riparian Data Management Survey
 - Participated with the BLM WO and the National Operation Center to design, conduct and analyze the results of a BLM State and Field Office survey as a starting point for aligning national priorities and fostering integration and support of BLM programs and initiatives.
- Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) TR Development
 - Work was initiated by BLM WO, NOC, NRST and ID BLM to update and convert the current MIM Idaho Technical Bulletin 2008-1 into a 1737 series Technical Reference. An extensive review process began in FY2009 with incorporation of comments, administrative and policy review, examination by statistical experts, and continuation of field application and adaptation.
- SRM Symposia at the Annual Meeting, NM
 - The NRST co-lead and participated in two symposia at the annual meeting of the Society for Range Management: (1) Riparian Ecological Site Descriptions – State and Transition Models, and (2) Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas.
- Sevier River Assessment, UT
 - Participated with the Utah Association of Conservation Districts and NRCS on an interdisciplinary team doing Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) and Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (SVAP) concurrently on the middle and lower, Sevier River using videography, digital photography and ground-truthing.
- Streambank Alteration Review Team Proposal
 - After researching options and conferring with possible team members, a proposal was drafted and sent to select BLM and FS program managers proposing establishment of a team to address the concept of streambank alteration. The intent was to build upon the work and recommendations of the University of Idaho Stubble Height Review Team, and to ultimately provide more clarity, understanding and guidance to agency personnel and stakeholders.
- BLM Riparian Youth Curriculum
 - Assisted with promotion and dissemination of the 'Holding on to the Green Zone' student and teacher guides within the Creek and Communities Network, to high school science teachers and the SRM High School Youth Forum.
- Vegetation Consistency Guidance (lentic)
 - 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.
- Headcut Guidance, FS STREAM Team
 - The NRST asked the STREAM Team to develop guidance on headcut assessment and treatment at the urging of the Creeks and Communities Network and agency field offices. Coordination and review are ongoing and will continue into FY2010.

- Riparian Grasses Field Guide
 - Initiated and led by the University of Wyoming, current efforts are focused on contributing to the inclusion of ecological information for each species.

TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

Training and Workshops - Riparian Service Team

- Consensus Institute III
 - A follow-up to the previous sessions on managing change and conflict, and learning approaches for recognizing and managing power and stereotypes, this third installment focused on dealing with scarcity. It was also co-sponsored with the BLM National Landscape Conservation System as a capstone to the 2008 'Learning Lab'. Attendance included a diverse mix of agency and community stakeholders from a number of a number of western states and Washington, D.C.
- SRM High School Youth Forum Riparian Workshop, NM
 - Conducted a half-day introductory workshop for SRM High School students attending the annual meeting of SRM.
- NRCS Riparian Net Training
 - Prepared and gave a presentation on riparian area conservation and management for web training offered by the West National Technology and Support Center.
- Crook County Natural Resources Education Program
 - The NRST served as visiting instructors at Crook County High School fish, wildlife and natural resources classes. This work contributed to a newly formed community partnerships and curriculum development including classroom time and field site visits.
- Cows and Creeks Community Presentations, OR
 - Sponsored by Oregon State University Extension, workshops were held in three communities focused on salmonid life history, fish passage, and compatible grazing strategies.
- Region 6 Forest Service Range Workshop, OR
 - Covered aspects of riparian monitoring as part of the annual Range Workshop in northeast Oregon.
- Oregon State University Rangeland Watershed Class
 - Provided classroom presentations and field site visits to learn about riparian function and recovery along with discussion of management implications.
- Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas Training
 - The NRST and NV State Team conducted a riparian grazing course as a follow-up activity to previous assistance to the Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, in Martin Basin.
 - The NRST conducted a riparian grazing course sponsored by the South Dakota Grazing Lands Coalition.
- County Riparian Grazing Workshops
 - Grant County, OR - Conducted a one-day introductory workshop primarily for the local ranching community dealing with riparian grazing issues on public land. The session was sponsored by Oregon State University Cooperative Extension.

- Moro County, OR - Conducted a one-day introductory workshop targeting livestock operators interested in improving practices in grazing management. The session was sponsored by Oregon State University Cooperative Extension.
- Multiple Indicator Monitoring Training
 - Arizona - The Tonto National Forest sponsored this riparian monitoring course to help them determine the applicability of the protocol on southwest riparian systems.
 - Colorado - The Colorado Riparian Team sponsored an interagency training session in Glenwood Springs.
 - California - The California Riparian Team sponsored an interagency training session in Truckee.
 - Washington – OR/WA BLM and Region 6 FS sponsored training in Okanogan.
 - Oregon - OR/WA BLM and Region 6 FS sponsored training in John Day.

Ongoing Participation – Riparian Service Team

BLM Socio-Economic Assessment Working Group
 FS Social Benefits/Measures Working Group
 SRM Watershed/Riparian, Wildlife Habitat, and Rangelands Steering Committees

Requests for Information / Referrals – Riparian Service Team

Summary - Responded to approximately 60 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. At least 20 referrals were also made for additional information and assistance.

CREATE AWARENESS, UNDERSTANDING, AND INTEREST

Briefings, Meetings, Presentations, Key Contacts – Riparian Service Team

- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Conference
- Isaac Walton League of America
- Texas NRCS State Office
- Oregon Cattlemen’s Association, Federal Lands Roundtable
- Forest Service WO/RO Range Directors/Program Managers
- PNW/SRM Annual Meeting
- SRM Annual Meeting
- Boone and Crockett Club
- USFWS WO and Regional Staff
- BLM WO Public Affairs Office
- BLM and FS National Partnership Coordinators
- FS Watershed, Fish and Wildlife Staff
- FS STREAM Team
- FS Aquatic Ecology Unit
- BLM National Operations Center
- BLM WO 220 & 230 Staff
- BLM Deputy State Directors
- BLM WO ADR Program

- BLM National Training Center
- Indicators of Rangeland Health Instructor Team
- National Cattlemen’s Beef Association
- NRCS West National Technical Support Center
- The Tamarisk Coalition
- Sustainable Northwest
- Whole Communities Workshop
- International Association of Public Participation
- Oregon Natural Desert Association
- U.S. Institute for Conflict Resolution

Products to Market and Implement the Strategy – Riparian Service Team

NRST/Creeks and Communities Website
 Full Stream Ahead Bi-monthly Newsletter
 Progress Report on Creeks and Communities
 Guide for Understanding and Implementing Creeks and Communities (draft)
 Creeks and Communities handouts and power point presentations
 BLM Informational Bulletin relative to Creeks and Communities, the NRST, and State Teams

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Planning and Coordination

NRST Coordination Calls - weekly
 NRST Work Planning Meetings - quarterly
 BLM WO-220 Conference Calls – weekly
 BLM Riparian Program Conference Calls – quarterly
 BLM and FS Range Program Conference Calls – monthly
 BLM WO 220/230 coordination
 BLM and FS Partnership Office program coordination
 BLM National Operations Center planning and coordination
 BLM National Training Center planning and coordination
 BLM and FS budget and staffing coordination
 BLM/FS Interagency Budget Agreements
 NRCS and USFWS communication and coordination
 Creeks and Communities Network Development/Support to State Teams planning
 Creeks and Communities Network Biennial Meeting planning
 ID/IQ Contract for implementing Creeks and Communities – administration and tracking

Reporting

FY2009 Riparian Coordination Network Accomplishment Report
 FY2008-2009 Accomplishment Synopsis
 FY2009 Monthly NRST Updates

Evaluation

Joint Venture Agreement entered in to with Oregon State University as principle investigator for what will be the second OMB approved program evaluation. The primary focus is to ascertain the effectiveness of the changes implemented since the first evaluation and subsequent revision of the strategic plan in 2002. Design is ongoing for the survey questionnaire and determination of case studies and interview questions. Preliminary work was also done relative to the requirements for the OMB approval package. The approval process and actual evaluation will occur in FY10 and FY11.

Leveraging Resources

Over half of the work activities were accomplished through leveraging NRST operating budget with contribution of outside funding.

State Riparian Team Activities

ALASKA

- Continued coordination with other federal agencies, state and local government, organizations and institutions relative to opportunities for Creeks and Communities activities.

ARIZONA

- Attended three Eagle Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan meetings with local ranchers, NRCS, Forest Service, and University of Arizona Extension Service personnel to develop plans for five grazing allotments within the Clifton Ranger District of the Apache-Sitgreaves NF.
- Two stream assessment training workshops for the White Mountain Apache Tribe helping and instructing tribal members in establishing permanent study sections along the North Fork of the White River in anticipation for the DEIS for the Minor Flat Dam.
- 2009 Arizona Rivers High School Riparian Research Experience workshop at Wet Beaver Creek, near Camp Verde, Arizona sponsored by the University of Arizona focusing on bird censusing methods in riparian areas and collecting aquatic macroinvertebrates to determine water quality in flowing streams.
- Participated with the NRST in a riparian assessment workshop for the Ranching Heritage Alliance in Sprinerville, Arizona, to familiarize local ranchers and resource specialists with methods and terminology used during riparian assessments that are done on public lands. The Ranching Heritage Alliance was established by local ranchers, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Service, and the Forest Service.
- Participated with the NRST in a riparian monitoring workshop for the Ranching Heritage Alliance to familiarize local ranchers and resource specialists with riparian monitoring methods, riparian plant identification, and photo-point establishment.

CALIFORNIA

- Conducted briefing for combined annual meeting of CA Association of Resource Conservation Districts and CA Association of Resource Conservation & Development Councils, Riverside.

- Held a one day training session on Proper Functioning Condition for Fens on the Plumas National Forest; 12 participants. (Oct 2008)
- In partnership with the NV State Team, conducted 2-day PFC training for the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, Bishop, CA; 68 people in attendance.
- Published document on Proper Functioning Condition of fens in CA; printed 600 copies in April, 2009. Citation: Weixelman, Dave A., Cooper, David J. 2009. Assessing Proper Functioning Condition for Fen Areas in the Sierra Nevada and Southern Cascade Ranges in California, A User Guide. Gen. Tech. Rep. R5-TP-028. Vallejo, CA. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, 42 p.
- Briefing at the US Forest Service Regional Range Workshop in Grass Valley, CA with FS statewide range conservationists and regional staff covering PFC as a tool for range allotment planning.
- PFC training for the Santa Ynez Chumash Indians, Santa Ynez, CA; 28 people in attendance.
- Creeks and Communities presentation to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board of Directors at their meeting in Squaw Valley.
- Hosted a Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) training session for US Forest Service, BLM, NRCS personnel in Truckee, CA; 68 people in attendance.

CANADA

- PFC assessments on 3 creeks in the Central Saanich as part of an integrated storm water plan resulting in a request to develop a waters course and ditch management manual/program for the city.
- Two introductory PFC sessions in Central Saanich including Tsawout First Nations, city staff and city council members.
- PFC assessments on 3 creeks in Sooke as part of an integrated storm water plan which is part of their overall liquid waste water management plan (sewage and storm water).
- Repeated PFC assessment on Hobbs creek on the University of Victoria property resulting in a 5 year restoration plan and elevation of risk profile within the university management team.
- Sponsor and co-supervisor of several graduate students at University of Victoria.
- Major reports linking riparian health and economics; Assessment of Stormwater Treatment via Engineered Ecology Treatment Systems and Stream Restoration, and Natures Revenue Streams; Five Ecological Value Case Studies.
- Served as advisors to the BC government's new water plan "Living Water Smart BC" wherein by 2012, all students in BC will have completed at least one stream health assessment.
- Publishes first GIS layer showing PFC ratings for 4 systems on a municipal, publicly accessible website (www.Saanich.ca); working on others.
- Development of touch screen display of storm water management in the BC Pavillion at the 2010 Olympics
- Numerous presentations including key contributor to the Smart Growth Conference in Tuolumne City, California.

COLORADO

- Outreach for State Team activities through diverse state network mailing list
- Conducted PFC workshop in Canon City (June – 37 participants)
- Conducted PFC workshop in Denver (July – 29 participants)
- Sponsored Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) training in Glenwood Springs.

IDAHO

- Updated and disseminated the announcement brochure advertising opportunities and services provided by the Idaho Riparian Team
- Presented a lotic PFC session for the University of Idaho Range Department with 22 student participants and 6 state employees and also PFC training session in Challis, ID – 17 participants and Shoshone, ID - 23 participants. Total attendance for all sessions was 62 people from various state and federal agencies, private affiliations, and students.
- As part of Riparian Team Coordinator/Agency Coordinators full-time position, assisted in the revision of the “Monitoring Streambanks and Riparian Vegetation -- Multiple Indicators (MIM)” protocol and presented one training session on this monitoring protocol in 2009. Participants in these sessions were from the Jarbidge and Shoshone Field Offices (approximately 32 total participants).
- Supported the process of converting the MIM Technical Bulletin into a national Technical Reference in the 1737 series (scheduled for 2010) including field testing and validation of the protocol.
- Participated in the design of a new BLM National Training Center Course titled, “Riparian Ecology”; also provided instruction during the pilot session held in Albuquerque.

MONTANA

- Updated the statewide riparian-wetland contact lists and the State Riparian Team flyer and riparian information CD, both of which include information on the Creeks and Communities Strategy;
- Maintained a Montana Riparian Team link on the NRCS website which introduces the Creeks and Communities Strategy, PFC, and gives contact information.
- Participated on the Montana Wetlands Council
- Carried out a service trip providing expertise and guidance to staff of the Little Bighorn National Monument.

NEVADA

- Outreach and demonstration of relevant application through presentations at the Fourth National Conference on Grazing Lands, annual meeting of the Society for Range Management, International Symposium of Terminus Lakes, and the annual Region 9 EPA/Tribal Conference.
- Served on an interdisciplinary, multi-agency/organization cadre to design and instruct a pilot course title Riparian Ecology.
- Assisted CA State Team in conducting a PFC training for the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, Bishop, CA, - 68 people in attendance.
- Conducted Grazing Management for Riparian Areas 3-day training in Winnemucca - 44 participants.
- Nevada Youth Range Camp sponsored by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Nevada Section SRM, and Nevada Wildlife Federation, June, Austin, NV.
- Nevada Range School; principles of riparian grazing management
- Society for Range Management High School Youth Forum Riparian Workshop
- Conducted PFC training in Nixon (May)
- Conducted PFC training in Elko (June)
- Conducted PFC training in Ely (July)

- PFC workshop at the Region 9/Tribal Annual Conference in San Francisco.
- Nevada Youth Range Camp sponsored by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Nevada Section SRM, and Nevada Wildlife Federation, June, Austin, NV.
- Participation on the Cottonwood Ranch Holistic Management Team, Carson River Coalition and Water Quality Working Group, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Technical Committee.
- PFC concepts were taught to South Fork of the Humboldt River Indian Reservation tribal members on seven occasions in June and September. PFC discussions have been held with the Trout Unlimited leader of the Salmon Project for Elko County.
- Participation with the NRST on multi-phased assistance for the pilot project of the Ruby Mountains Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. Activities include PFC and PFC/Aerial Photography training, planning and community meetings in preparation for pre-work and assessments to be conducted in FY2010.
- Initiation of a program evaluation assessing the effectiveness of the NV State Service Team and their activities implementing the Creeks and Communities strategy.
- Annual State Team planning meeting.

NEW MEXICO

- Held annual planning meeting in Socorro in November 2008 to determine activities for 2009
- Actively seeking new team members from the Forest Service.
- Conducted PFC training in Ruidoso in May
- Continues to maintain a poster at NM State Parks in Albuquerque and coordinate with New Mexico Riparian Council

OREGON

- Active search for new State Team members
- Oregon State University Rangeland Watershed class field tour
- Society for Range Management High School Youth Forum Riparian Workshop

TEXAS

- Riparian Presentations:
 - Menard Soil and Water Conservation District, Oct 1
 - Lower Colorado River Authority Landowner Seminar, Oct 9
 - Texas Master Naturalists Conf, Oct 29
 - Texas Chapter, The Wildlife Society, Feb 27
 - Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Expo, March 7
 - Texas Master Naturalists Chapter Meeting, March 23
 - San Geronimo Landowners, May 7
 - South Concho River Landowner Assoc, May 16
 - Texas A&M Univ. Senior Range Class Field Trip, May 20
 - St. Luke Episcopal Church Stewardship Conf, July 29
- McKinney PFC Workshop, Nov 19
- Texas Riparian Team PFC Workshop in Temple, Aug 10-13
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept, Oct 16
- NRCS PFC, Nov 19-20
- Tonk Creek Landowners Workshop – 4/30/09 – Spenser, Creswell
- On-site assistance and landowner consultations:

- HEB Camp, Frio River, Oct 19
- TJ Moore, Guadalupe River Oct 31
- Ranch Consultation, North Llano River, Feb 17
- Huckstead, Spring Creek, Jun 23
- Behringer, Pedernales River, July 1
- Lower Colorado River Authority Property, Aug 4
- City of Arlington – Johnson Creek
- Landowner Workshops with Nueces River Authority
 - San Pedro Ranch, Oct 17
 - Rancho Real, Oct 18
 - Annandale Ranch, Oct 19
 - Utopia workshop, Oct 21
 - River Tree workshop, May 2
 - Dos Chimineas Ranch, May 4
 - Mayan Ranch, May 5
 - Choya Ranch, May 6
 - Burns Ranch, May 7
- Remarkable Riparian Brochure
- Remarkable Riparian Field Guide
- Distribution of Riparian Notes

UTAH

- Annual planning meeting; Team Leader, team members, agency coordinators
- 2009 Utah Creeks and Communities network updated and shared
- Briefing and assistance opportunities identified; call letter to agency contacts
- Utah Riparian Team brochure revamped and distributed
- Attended Utah Partners for Conservation and Development, Utah’s Watershed Restoration Initiative meeting.
- Briefing given to Utah Nonpoint Source Task Force
- Presentation to the Virgin River Recovery Program Partners
- Participated in service trip on the East Fork of the Sevier River regarding restoration project with BLM and Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources. (Oct 2008)
- Participated in San Rafael River coordination meeting and site visit including BLM, UDWR, USU, BOR, and USGS to discuss current, and plan future activities for improving the system and aquatic species habitat.
- Participated as part of an interagency, interdisciplinary team conducting assessments of stream and riparian condition in the middle and lower Sevier River watershed applying both Stream Visual Assessment Protocol Version 2 (SVAP2) and Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) assessment with the use of low-level video and high resolution aerial photography. This project facilitated tying together a major river system in Utah with an interagency, interdisciplinary assessment, assisting with overall coordination efforts and the ability of managers to efficiently identify and prioritize restoration projects. In addition, this project provided a unique opportunity to apply visual assessment techniques in an accelerated fashion through the use of video and photographic images. Within 3 days, approximately 1/3 of the total miles of the river were evaluated, an estimated 30 miles/day.
- Following an introductory Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) training in Cedar City, in 2008, the Utah Riparian Team sponsored a MIM implementation training, July 27-29, 2009 at Bear and Birch Creeks, near Beaver, Utah. MIM data was collected on Birch Creek and

Bear Creek to establish a baseline for detecting changes after implementation of a fuels project to remove pinyon and juniper trees within a 300 meter buffer of the riparian area to improve riparian conditions and to prevent catastrophic fire in order to protect the isolated Bonneville cutthroat population. Development of treatment plans is ongoing for Bear Creek (historical Bonneville cutthroat population) as more data is collected and as collaboration begins with the Forest Service and adjacent private land owner.

- Following introductory MIM training in Evanston, Wyoming, in 2008, and implementation training was conducted in Rich County. Baseline and reference MIM data were collected on Big, Randolph, Middle Otter and South Otter Creeks for implementation of a future livestock grazing coordinated resource management (CRM) project. The intent of the proposed project is to improve 136,000 acres of BLM, USFS, state and private rangeland. The project calls for time-controlled grazing, livestock would be rotated across the range throughout the season. Under this grazing-rotation plan only 20 percent of the land would be open for grazing at any given time. Pastures also would be opened at different times each season, allowing for a diversity of plant life to re-seed.
- Conducted PFC training in Moab, Utah; over 30 participants with the majority of attendees from non-federal entities including local counties, various Utah Conservation Districts, Utah State Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, Utah State University, Intermountain Center for River Restoration and Rehabilitation, NRSI Services as well as BLM, FS, and NRCS.
- Submitted proposal and awarded Challenge Cost Share funds for UT State Team Co-coordinator

WYOMING

- Introductory PFC session for 15 community college students (April)
- Three-day PFC training in Lander; 31 participants (July)
- Assisted NRST by providing instruction for PFC/Aerial Photography training in Elko, Nevada.
- Recruited new member from the Bighorn National Forest