

Ecosystem Analysis At The Watershed Scale

EAWS TEAM PROGRESS REPORT

This document provides updates on the Nez Perce EAWS Team progress on the Red River EAWS.

The EAWS Core Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) came together in May 2002. Members of the Team are:

Kara Chadwick – Team Leader

Carolyn Wren – Aquatics Specialist

Mike Hays – Botanist

Michelle Godawa – Wildlife Biologist

Pat Green – Ecologist

Steve Armstrong – Archeologist

Becky Winkler – GIS/Computer Specialist

In addition to the core team members, Stephanie Bransford, Habitat Biologist with the Nez Perce Tribe, is working with Susan Graves, Nez Perce National Forest Engineer, to provide the transportation system input. Randy Borniger, Red River District Recreation Specialist, and Gary Loomis, Red River District Trails Coordinator are providing the recreation and trails input. Several other Red River District personnel are providing support and input to the core team.

What Have We Been Working On?

Our first task is to assess watershed conditions in the Red River watershed. The IDT, working with Red River District personnel, identified key questions and issues within the Red River watershed. At the same time, we assessed existing data and identified data needs. We then developed a strategy to fill the data gaps. Team members and district personnel are currently in the field collecting data and getting to know the Red River watershed.

What Is Our Schedule?

Summer 2002: As mentioned, we are in the process of collecting field data. Data is being collected on road and culvert conditions, streams, fish species distribution, soils, plants and overstory trees. Input of existing and new data is being done concurrently. Additionally, Chapters 1-3 will be completed. Upon completion, the document will contain six chapters.

Fall 2002: We will finish data input and begin data analysis. Work on Chapter Four will begin. Chapter Four is the largest and most complex portion of the watershed analysis. It is the watershed characterization portion of the document. In this chapter, we identify the historic and current conditions.

Winter 2002/2003: We will conclude the watershed analysis by completing Chapters 4-6. The conclusion of the document is a set of integrated resource management recommendations that will provide the framework for site-specific NEPA projects. We plan to print a draft document in the spring of 2003.

For more information
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http://www.fs.fed.us/r1nezperce/eaws_redriver/index.html