

MIDDLE FORK WEISER RIVER PROJECT

| WHY RESTORE A LANDSCAPE? | ROLE OF THE PFC | PROJECT GOALS | WHERE ARE WE GOING? |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>Current forest conditions depart from those desired.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current conditions depart from the historical range of landscape structure and function The conditions may be an outcome of past management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timber production goals & harvest methods Fire suppression Road network design The desired conditions are defined based on data and analysis, and referenced in the current forest plan and pending amendments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetation conditions & Wildlife Conservation Strategy (Appendix A) Aquatic conservation strategy (Appendix B) Watershed Condition Framework The conditions compromise the resiliency of the forest to recover from disturbance and adapt to climate change. Restoration actions will help restore ecosystem function by altering forest structures, composition and their distribution (pattern) on the landscape. | <p>We provide recommendations to the line officer on all phases of restoration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend treatment strategies, priorities & sideboards/guidelines. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in scoping meetings Review scoping comments Comment on draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review contract type and specifications Recommend priorities for retained receipts of Stewardship Contracts Multi-party Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the design & implementation of project monitoring. Conduct site review of completed contract services, and document the review. | <p>Our recommendations will reflect the members' diverse interests.</p> <p>Wildlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species, as appropriate by need. <p>Wildfire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve forest resiliency to wildfire by restoring Potential Vegetation Groups (PVG) toward their respective historical range of structure Return fire to the landscape as an ecosystem process. Improve the ability to manage wildfire and protect surrounding communities. <p>Watershed Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve water quality and watershed health <p>Forest Access & Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the road and trail network to support access for resource management, outdoor recreation, and public safety. <p>Restoration Economics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend actions which are financially responsible and contribute to the economic vitality of adjacent communities. | <p>We will provide timely recommendations by a consensus process.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Payette Coalition Mission</p> <p>Build diverse community support for forest restoration projects.</p> </div> <p>Project Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PFC will submit project recommendations to the line officer by December, 2013 (April 22, 2014). <p>NEPA Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping begins 7/01/14 Review comments: 8/26/15 DEIS 4/28/15 Record of Decision 8/25/15 <p>Implementation</p> <p>Multi-party Monitoring</p> |

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KEY MEASURES (Indicators) FOR PFC GOALS

Wildlife Habitat & Wildfire

- Acres moved towards desired condition
- PVG acres by tree size class & acres by canopy closure class of the large tree size class, with emphasis on PVGs 2, 5, & 6.
- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) acres treated
- Acres by fire condition class (before and after treatment)
- Change in elk security habitat
- Habitat restoration requirements of endangered species recovery plans, including salmon, steelhead, and Northern Idaho ground squirrel (NIDGS) habitat quantity/distribution
- Incorporate noxious weed data and weed free areas from the Early Detection Rapid Response Program
- Native plants: distribution of native plant communities

Watershed Health

- Watershed Condition Class
 - Apply/review watershed condition indicators (12 indicator model) for each 6th order watershed
 - Identify condition class for each watershed prior to project
 - Estimate condition class for each watershed post-treatment

Forest Access

- Net change in open system roads
- Miles of non-system, closed roads decommissioned
- Change in miles of maintained trails – motorized, non-motorized
- Forest access metrics will be supported by Transportation Analysis Planning (TAP), and not substitute for TAP.

Economics/Finance

- **Scale** of restoration (how much should be treated), i.e.:
 - Cost/benefit of road restoration (miles)
 - Cost/benefit of stand harvest (acres)
 - Cost, by watershed, to change watershed condition class
 - Revenue as % of project cost
- **Allocation** of restoration dollars – i.e., priority of treatment types
- **Income Contribution**
 - Job years resulting from project expenditures
 - Income contribution (dollars)
- Note: PFC supports economic activities on the forest that contribute to the vitality of local communities, including activities such as commercial wood products, ecological restoration, livestock grazing, recreation, mining, etc.
- Project analysis metrics should include both positive (gains in income) and negative (decreases in income, if any) resulting from proposed restoration actions.