

Creeks & Communities

Collaborative Approaches to Solving Problems
Around Grazing and Riparian Restoration



Western Stewardship Summit ♦ September 26, 2008

Creeks & Communities

- Initiative for Accelerating Cooperative Riparian Restoration and Management
- Started 1996 by BLM and FS, in partnership with NRCS
- Implemented by interagency, interdisciplinary NRST and State Teams



Develop a new critical mass of people who interact with and manage riparian resources based on shared knowledge of the attributes and processes that constitute sustainability

**Bear Creek OR
1976**



**Bear Creek OR
2003**





**Dixie Creek
NV 1989**



**Dixie Creek
NV 1995**




**Burro Creek
AZ 1981**



**Burro Creek
AZ 2000**

Building Capacity

- Building relationships, networks and trust between individuals
 - Developing individual knowledge, skills and abilities
 - Mobilizing resources needed to get work done on the ground
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Service Trips

Action teams provide diverse groups 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 ecological and human dimensions.



Conflict & Polarization

Bring affected interests together and use consensus building techniques

- Create learning environments
- Build relationships and trust
- Foster development of networks



Shared Information

Use joint fact finding with experts and stakeholders working together on the ground

- Develop credible and common information
- Incorporate local and cultural knowledge
- Learn fundamental concepts together



Focus on Function

- Linked to values
- Common vocabulary
- Guides conversation



Focus on Function

- Asses current condition
- Prioritize restoration efforts
- Inform management and monitoring decisions



Empower People

- Realistic understanding of current situation and risk/cost of options
- Identify alternate possibilities



Swamp Creek

