IDAHO PANHANDLE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RAC PROJECT INFORMATION FORM (Final V.6)

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">PROJECT NAME: Beaver Creek Watershed Analysis</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Project Sponsor: US Forest Service with Kootenai Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. This project endorsed by Shoshone County and the North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Advisory Group.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Sponsors' Address:</td><td>Aaron Prussian
Fisheries Biologist
Idaho Panhandle National Forest-North Zone (USFS)
1500 Hwy 2, Ste 110
Sandpoint, ID 83864
aaronprussian@fs.fed.us</td><td>Craig Nelson
Kootenai Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District (KSSWCD)
7830 Meadowlark Way, Suite C-1
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815
ksswcd@icehouse.net</td></tr>
<tr><td>Kajsa Stromberg
Watershed Coordinator
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
2110 Ironwood Parkway
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814
Kajsa.Stromberg@deq.idaho.gov</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Sponsors' Phone:</td><td>USFS
(208) 265-6658 (Sandpoint)
(208) 769-3037 (Coeur d' Alene)</td><td>KSSWCD
(208) 762-4939 x 101</td></tr>
<tr><td>DEQ
(208) 769-1422
(208) 666-4633 Direct</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Project Location: (Township/Range/Please attach map)
T 49N R 4E, Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Shoshone County</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Partners/Volunteers: Project will be jointly led by the US Forest Service, Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District, and Idaho Department Environmental Quality with support from the North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Advisory Group and local landowners. Partners include Shoshone County and the Bureau of Land Management.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Is NEPA Complete On This Project? N/A (NEPA not required)</td></tr>
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Brief Description of Project:

The US Forest Service and the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District, in partnership with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and at the request of the North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Advisory Group (WAG), is requesting funds to initiate the improvement of conditions in the 42 mi^2 Beaver Creek watershed. Beaver Creek is a tributary to the North Fork of the Coeur d' Alene River and has a long history of timber harvest, mining, and poorly constructed and unmaintained roads on public and private lands that have collectively degraded water quality and led to poorly functioning watershed conditions. Consequently, water quality in Beaver Creek violates the Clean Water Act and contains excessive sediment, high water temperatures, and damaging concentrations of cadmium, lead and zinc. Beaver Creek is also subject to Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements for sediment and TMDLs are in development for temperature. Until water quality conditions improve, water quality impairments will continue to make it difficult to proceed with development projects such as mining exploration or timber harvest.

At the same time, landowners are concerned about erosion, flooding, and deposition of sediments along their streamside properties, and road management and mine remediation are also producing ongoing water quality challenges in the Beaver Creek watershed. This watershed analysis would bring together federal, state, and non-governmental groups to cooperatively determine the actions necessary to return the Beaver Creek watershed to a functioning condition. The partnership would involve multiple state, federal and local cooperators and would assess conditions across varying land uses and land ownerships. This partnership approach to managing watersheds is rare but is an increasingly occurring and successful means of addressing water quality and resource management.

As a direct result of this analysis, temporary employment opportunities from the local workforce would be created initially for field data collection, assessment, and analysis. Future employment opportunities would be created through contracts for restoration projects or timber sales generated from the analysis. In addition, employment would be created directly from the restoration work, and indirectly from supporting services (e.g., fuel, machinery). Also, as watershed conditions improve, use within the watershed may become less controversial as the cumulative effects of many historic actions are reduced on the landscape. Improved watershed conditions may also result in more diverse employment and recreation opportunities as big game and fish populations improve, and recreation opportunities increase.

The USFS, KSSWCD, and DEQ request that the RAC consider funding a temporary workforce to collect data on watershed conditions, including water quality, fisheries habitat and stream channels, flood risks, stream crossings and road condition, and riparian vegetation. This effort will be coordinated by USFS, KSSWCD, and DEQ with involvement from the WAG and other public outreach. Temporary staff will be managed by the USFS and KSSWCD. Additional analysis by the US Forest Service, not funded by the RAC, will review wildlife condition and use, forest condition, recreation use, and transportation and public access needs in the watershed as part of their integrated watershed analysis and timber planning efforts. Combined, the data would then be used to develop an implementation plan, created by the group, aimed at reducing environmentally damaging conditions within the Beaver Creek Watershed.

EXPECTED OUTCOME AND BENEFITS:

1. Creation of five temporary jobs recruited from the local workforce that will work on both federal and non-federal lands with the approval of the appropriate landowners during the 2010 field season. Temporary staff will be managed by the USFS and KSSWCD. These crews will also be managed by professionals that will mentor and help develop skills in the local workforce.

2. Collection of data necessary for watershed analysis and development of a strategic implementation plan.

3. Publication of summary report(s) of Beaver Creek Watershed Analysis including:
    a. Identification of historic and present day sources of pollution and water quality degradation in the watershed.
    b. Summary assessment of watershed condition including identification of problems and opportunities.
    c. Description of the desired condition of the Beaver Creek Watershed.
    d. List of strategic recommendations on cost-effective restoration activities necessary to reach the desired condition and reduce water quality degradation.
    e. Monitoring plan to measure results.

4. Restoration activities will be more effective and economically viable, and easier to implement with this information. The improved understanding of watershed condition and the list of strategic actions will enable the eventual restoration of watershed function and compliance with the Clean Water Act. This will result in greater future employment opportunities, as work is created to address those environmental issues in the analysis. Examples of this work may include stream and streambank restoration, road improvements, erosion control, mine remediation, bridge and culvert improvements, and range fencing or improvements.

5. When combined with information from the US Forest Service's integrated assessment, improved watershed function will translate into improved conditions for fish and wildlife, and decrease controversial issues for local landowners, recreational visitors, and forest industries like mining and timber harvest.

PROJECT COSTS:		
RAC Funds Requested:	**Temporary/Seasonal Wages & Supplies/Equipment**	**$62,250**
Partnership Funds Available (Including FS Dollars)	FS Match Wages/equipment/supplies (see below)	**$45,000**
In-Kind/Volunteer Time:	IDEQ and North Fork Coeur d'Alene River WAG members	**$10,000**
Other Sources of Funding:		
TOTAL PROJECT COST		**$117,250**

Breakdown of RAC Funds:

Parameter	*#*	*Cost/Day*	*Days*	*USFS*	*KSSWCD*	*RAC Request*
Personnel						
USFS GS-4 Technician	2	$120	90	$10,800	--	$10,800
USFS GS-5 Technician	2	$130	90	$11,700	--	$11,700
KSSWCD GS-5 Technician	1	$130	120	--	$15,600	$15,600
Total Personnel Cost				***$22,500***	***$15,600***	***$38,100***
Supplies						
Survey equipment				$1,000	$4,000	$5,000
Water quality sampling				$1,000	$1,500	$2,500
Water quality analysis				$3,000	$7,250	$10,000
Total Supplies/ Equip.				***$5,000***	***$12,750***	***$17,500***
Vehicles	*2*	*$40*	*80*	***$3,200***	***$3,200***	***$6,400***
Total RAC Request				***$30,700***	***$31,550***	***$62,250***

Breakdown of Forest Service Partnership Funds:

Personnel	*Daily Rate*	*Days*	*In-Kind*
FS Personnel, Equipment and Vehicles			$45,000
Total FS Partnership Funds			**$45,000**
Estimated Non-Forest Service Partner In-Kind Contributions (DEQ, BLM, and Watershed Advisory Group)			$10,000
Total In-Kind Partner			**$55,000**

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORM TO:

Idaho Panhandle RAC
Attn: Ranotta McNair
Idaho Panhandle National Forests
3815 Schreiber Way
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

For questions regarding submission, please contact Suzanne Endsley (208-765-7369).

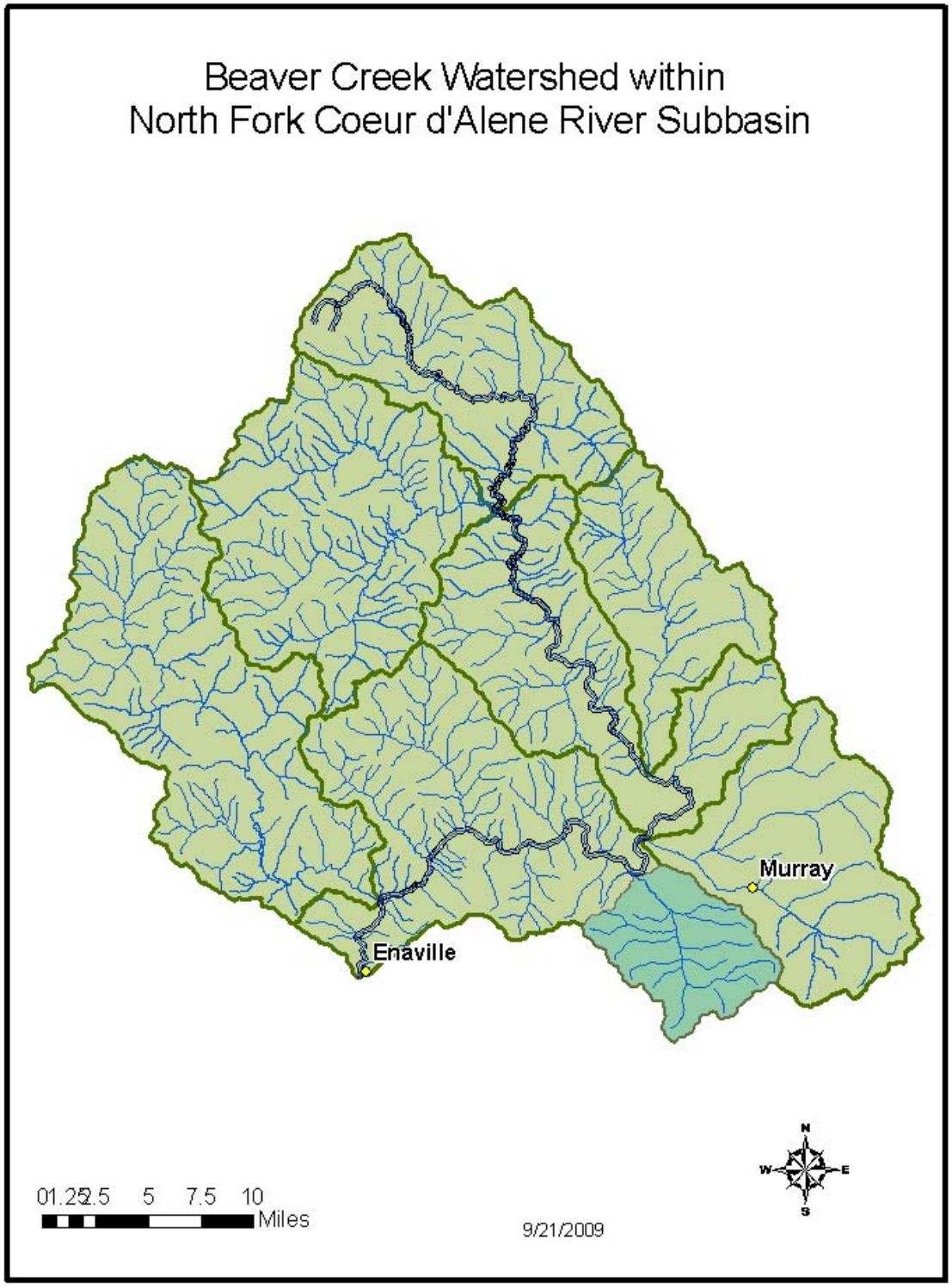


Figure 1. The Beaver Creek Watershed is located in the lower North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Subbasin.

BEAVER CREEK WATERSHED IMAGES

Prepared by Kajsa Stromberg, DEQ, January 2010

Beaver Creek was an active part of the Coeur d'Alene Mining District with placer and hard rock mining. Timber harvest and agricultural development were accompanied by homesteaders, road-building, and even a railroad.

Agricultural land uses continue along Beaver Creek where some families have spent generations.

Reclamation of abandoned mine lands by DEQ, the USFS and BLM has been ongoing in the Beaver Creek headwaters. Active reclamation work will be conducted at the Idora site in 2010.

Sections of Beaver Creek are overwidened, aggraded, and choked with unstable floodplain sediments associated with historic land use practices.

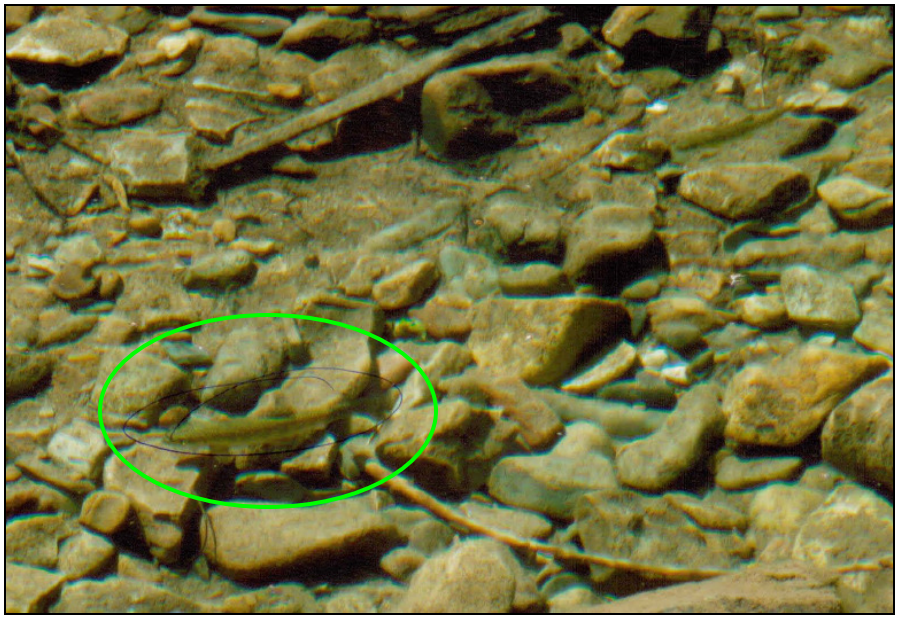
Recent management has included timber harvest on public and private lands and the installation of a power line by the Bonneville Power Administration.

Roads and crossing structures in the watershed vary widely, and many are not appropriately maintained.

Sections of Beaver Creek are unstable and may be sites of excessive sediment deposition.

There are poorly aligned and undersized bridges in the watershed that impact maintenance costs, affect the stream channel, and change patterns of sediment transport and deposition.

There are many recreational properties in the lower watershed and landowners are concerned about erosion, deposition of sediment, loss of property and the effects of floods.



Westslope cutthroat trout are part of the cold water aquatic life community affected by poor water quality conditions in Beaver Creek and its tributaries. Water quality concerns include sediment, temperature, and metals including cadmium, lead, and zinc.