



Seventeen participants met at Zim's Hot Springs and went on field trips to the Osborn Ranch and Hazard Creek. Captured minutes are from speaker presentations and group discussions.

Photos of the areas and additional resources from this meeting are available at <https://littlesalmonriverwatershedcollaborative.com>.

Participants:

Al Becker
Andre' Snyder
Austin Wrem
Craig Johnson
Cameron Carsley
Dale Brown
Dana Harris
Ed Osborn

Gary Thompson
Jeff Luft
Johanna Stangland
Keisha Miller
Kiana Ziola
Naomi Anderson
Randy Fox
Rebecca Levandowski

Riparian Restoration Actions on Osborn Ranch - Ed Osborn

- In 1996 Ed Osborn in partnership with Idaho Fish and Wildlife, Idaho Fish and Game, and Trout Unlimited, planted vegetation along one mile of streambank on his property.
- The 1997 flood pushed water levels to historic heights and effectively washed out all plantings from the previous year.
- Osborn planted again in 1998 to a lesser extent and some vegetation from that effort has sustained despite obstacles including a growing gravel bar, beavers, and degrading cutbanks.
- Additional irrigation using water pumps on dogwood and willow trees was used with small success.
- Osborn planted along the banks and higher ground to find the best location for plant survival.
- Ed Osborn discussed removing two gravel bars to reduce bank erosion, however, stream morphology indicates the water is meandering along its natural progression. Removing the gravel bars could shift the problem downstream with the increased stream flow.
- In an average year, the bank is losing 1-2 feet.
- Scott Henderson with NRCS may have historical photos.
- Ed Osborn would use a mechanical auger to plant whips with casings protecting from beavers if he were to plant again.

Discussion

lsrwc@redfishbluefishinc.com

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- Ed Osborne and Dean Dryden's restoration efforts seem similar from previous presentations.
- Vegetation has been the most prominent stabilizing factor to reduce bank erosion
- Riparian canopy could potentially increase by digging trenches along the stream to allow plants access to the water table
- There is a program in eastern Washington that may work out here that relocates beavers to other areas.
- Across the street at Zim's Hot Springs, 300 plantings are scheduled for September.

Potential Restoration Projects on Hazard Creek - Craig Johnson, Bureau of Land Management

- The Bureau of Land Management is reviewing current opportunities for restoration work in their areas of Hazard and Boulder Creeks
- Currently, there is a full passage barrier for Chinook Salmon in Hazard Creek as well as sediment loading concerns.
- BLM improved all roads that remained after the 1997 flood with several needing repair again.
- A cooperative project with the Forest Service resulted in a 1999 watershed restoration plan. This document outlined mechanical treatment, prescribed burning, road decommissioning, and road paralleling projects to improve water quality in Hazard Creek.
- Current high priority areas for improvement are bridge #2 of Hazard Creek, Morgan Lake trail, and reducing road related sediment from entering Hazard Creek.
- Morgan lake trail is another potential opportunity for improved drainage and sediment reduction

Discussion

- How is sediment being delivered to area streams?
 - The number one impact is roads. BLM road maintenance has been lacking over the last years.
- Travel planning designations make it difficult to decommission roads in remote areas.
- Currently, BLM is using the Geomorphic Road Analysis and Inventory Package model (GRAIP) to decide which areas of the road deliver the highest amount of sediment to streams.
- What's the likelihood of BLM receiving funding in the next few years to fix Hazard Creek road? Can the collaborative provide a letter of support?
 - Yes, the letter would help. The field manager has asked the collaborative to list roads requiring maintenance.

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- On location, failing culverts are creating gullies in the road resulting in increased fine sediment delivery into the stream. Too much can smother salmon eggs in the river and reduce survival.

Action Items

- Contact Scott Henderson from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (perhaps based in Emmett) to access historical photos of Osborn Ranch area
- Letter of support for the BLM and list of potential areas requiring maintenance on Hazard Creek road.