

Seattle, Washington
 March 26, 1999



TO: Readers of Plum Creek's Native Fish HCP Technical Reports

FROM: Lorin L. Hicks, Ph.D., Director of Fish and Wildlife Resources

SUBJECT: **Reader's Introduction to the NFHCP Technical Reports**

This compact disc includes 13 technical reports prepared by Plum Creek and outside scientists. The purpose of these technical reports is to provide the scientific foundation for Plum Creek's Native Fish Habitat Conservation Plan. Our objective in providing this compendium is to give you, the reader, more opportunity to examine this scientific foundation in greater detail than that found in the HCP document alone. The titles and principle authors of each technical report are listed below:

Report Number	Report Title	Principal Authors
1	Survey and Inventory of Bull Trout Populations in PCTC Conservation Project Area: '93-'95 Methodology and Results.	Greg Watson Tracy Hillman, Ph.D.
2	Factors Affecting the Distribution and Abundance of Bull Trout: An Investigation at Hierarchical Scales.	Greg Watson Tracy Hillman, Ph.D.
3	Surface Erosion and Mass Wasting Assessment and Management Strategies for Plum Creek's Native Fish Habitat Conservation Plan	Dale McGreer Brian Sugden
4	An Ecological Classification Integrating Uplands and Riverine/Riparian Habitats, Applied To The Thompson River Basin, Montana	Sherman Jensen Brian Sugden Brian Gilbert
5	Goat Creek and Piper Creek Watershed Analysis	Greg Watson Brian Sugden
6	Summary of Regulatory and Voluntary Programs for Protecting Bull Trout on Forest Lands in the Vicinity of Plum Creek Ownership in Montana, Idaho, and Washington.	Brian Sugden Jeffrey Light
7	Design of Effective Riparian Management Strategies for Stream Resource Protection in Montana, Idaho, and Washington	Jeffrey Light Mic Holmes Matt O'Connor, Ph.D. Dean Berg, Ph.D. Steve Toth Dale McGreer Kent Doughty
8	Synthesis of Watershed Analysis and Ecoclassification at a River-Basin Scale for the Conservation and Management of Aquatic Ecosystems	Greg Watson Matt O'Connor, Ph.D. Brian Sugden Tracy Hillman, Ph.D.

memorandum

Report Number	Report Title	Principal Authors
9	Swan River Basin Ecological Classification	Sherm Jensen
10	Thompson River Basin Ecological Classification	Sherm Jensen
11	Thompson River Watershed Analysis: Beatrice Creek, Boiling Springs Creek, and Murr Creek.	Brian Sugden Greg Watson
12	Stream Temperature Considerations in the Development of Plum Creek's Native Fish Habitat Conservation Plan	Brian Sugden Tracy Hillman, Ph.D. Jean Caldwell
13	Adaptive Management: Concepts and Application to Plum Creek's Native Fish Habitat Conservation Plan	Lorin Hicks, Ph.D. Jeffrey Light Greg Watson Brian Sugden Tracy Hillman, Ph.D. Dean Berg, Ph.D.

Other contributing scientists and technicians for these reports included Dr. Ron Ryel, Kent Doughty, Dennis Schult, Ted Dean, Paul Callahan, Ron Steiner, Mic Holmes, and John Woods.

Each technical report has been reviewed by outside experts in one of the following manners:

1. Distribution to interested parties and regulatory agencies (Technical reports 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11)
2. Publication as a peer-reviewed journal article (Technical report 2)
3. Peer-review by outside experts chosen by Plum Creek and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Technical reports 3,7,8 12 and 13)
4. Manuscript submitted for publication in peer-reviewed journal (Technical report 4)

The disk also includes four “white papers” on the following topics:

1. Livestock grazing on Plum Creek ownership in the NFHCP project area
2. Higher and Better Use (HBU) lands and implications for native fish conservation
3. Riparian Inventory along the Thompson Key Migratory River
4. Plum Creek's Grazing Best Management Practices (reviewed by riparian specialists)

The white papers are generally more informational in nature and thus were not externally reviewed as extensively as the technical reports.

We want to acknowledge and thank the outside reviewers for the time and comments they offered in the development of these reports. We also appreciate the efforts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service biologists working with Plum Creek on the Native Fish HCP who attended workshops, field tours and offered comments in the preparation of these reports.

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Finally, it is important to note that the purpose of these reports was to compile, analyze and interpret technical data on topics that are fundamental to the preparation and direction of the Native Fish HCP. As such, the reports provide an accurate scientific review of HCP topics that also have economic and operational considerations which must be finalized with the Services and Plum Creek before the HCP is completed. Consequently, these documents do not contain specific prescriptions and standards that will be part of the final HCP following discussions with the Services and review by the public.

In addition to this CD, we encourage you to visit Plum Creek's Internet web page at www.plumcreek.com for more information on the Native Fish HCP and other conservation initiatives by Plum Creek.