

Middle McKenzie Side Channels - 2010

Willamette National Forest
McKenzie River Ranger District



McKenzie Watershed Council



Focus watersheds: Middle McKenzie and South Fork McKenzie Rivers

Forest Service Contribution: \$30,855

Project Contact: Ray Rivera

Partner Contribution: \$85,000

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Project Cost: \$115,855

Targets: 2 miles of TES stream enhanced (1 mile partner and 1 miles USFS); 2 miles of stream inventory; 2 miles of habitat monitoring; 80 acres of beaver habitat improved

Internal Partners: Recreation, Wildlife

Project Objectives: To improve side channel habitat for bull trout and spring Chinook salmon; to outreach to local students to become involved with the project; to spread this habitat enhancement concept downstream to private land holdings.



McKenzie High School Students and Mentor Cliff Robinson

Education and Monitoring – the MWC has received two grants for this project. An OWEB grant to help pay for 2010 project work (i.e. wood round up and tree tipping in Delta Side Channels), and a Governor's Natural Resource Education grant to help the MWC and the McKenzie School District with costs. Students from McKenzie High School have done the pre-project monitoring and will continue to be involved with all facets of the project from implementation to post-project monitoring and interpretation. In 2011, the Forest Service and the MWC will implement the helicopter portion of the project and we are seeking other partners and grants to pay for project costs.

The McKenzie River Ranger District and the McKenzie Watershed Council (MWC) have partnered to implement a project (Middle McKenzie Side Channels) to improve rearing habitat for bull trout, and spawning and rearing habitat for spring Chinook salmon. The project will involve tipping over large trees to serve as key logs. Then using a helicopter to place additional logs upstream of these key logs. And finally by hand, placing smaller woody material (i.e. tree branches) upstream of the created log jams. This will improve rearing habitat for sub-adult bull trout, and improve spawning and rearing habitat for spring Chinook salmon. The project has a strong education and monitoring emphasis.



McKenzie High School Students and Jared Weybright from McKenzie Watershed Council

Partners: McKenzie Watershed Council (Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Grant \$25k wood round up and \$28k tree tipping; Governor's Nat. Res. Ed. Grant \$32k); McKenzie School District - 15 students involved in project; Forest Service all planning costs and monitoring \$30k.