



# **Dark Canyon Creek Fencing Project 2016**

**Project No.1992-026-01**

**Contract: 72002**

**Completion Report**

**Period Covered: May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017**

**Completed by: Joe Platz**

**United States Forest Service  
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest  
La Grande Ranger District  
La Grande, OR**

**May 17, 2017**



**Dark Canyon exclosure fence (downstream end)**

## Dark Canyon Creek Fencing Project

Dark Canyon Creek is spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River Basin summer steelhead and redband trout. Summer steelhead are federally listed under ESA as threatened species. Redband trout are on the Regional Forester's Sensitive Species List.



**335 Spring Development.**

## **Project Objectives**

The objective is to improve summer steelhead habitat, specifically through improving or increasing the following habitat elements.

- Improve stream shade
- Improve floodplain and riparian function
- Increase riparian vegetation
- Improve ungulate grazing management to enhance steelhead habitat elements

## **Restoration Treatments**

The Dark Canyon Creek Fencing Project involved the construction of 2.5 miles of livestock enclosure fence and the development of 3 upland water sources for livestock and wildlife. The

project involved: (1) the construction of 2.5 miles of 4 strand barb wire enclosure fence to exclude 2.5 miles of steelhead habitat. (2) The installation of 3 spring boxes, 3 troughs, and 3 small enclosures around three spring sources (2135, 2100, and 335 springs). All sites were seeded with a native grass seed/forb mix. The project was completed by USFS personnel and the USFS skid steer.

**Total Cost: \$41,949 (BPA \$37,914; USFS \$4,035)**



**2100 Spring Development**