Final Completion Summary

The Woodlee Restoration Project is located on the Upper Grande Ronde River, tributaries to the Snake River. The project is located on 1.25 miles of the upper Grande Ronde River (RM 198-199). The project is located within Upper Grande Ronde River (1706010401); Meadowbrook Creek (170601040103) watersheds. The Upper Grande Ronde River is spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River Basin summer steelhead, Snake RiverBasin spring chinook salmon, bull trout and redband trout. Historic beaver trapping, mining, roading and the Woodlee Campground created a confined channel, with limited floodplain interaction and diminished deciduous vegetation. The project would prioritize LWD placement to add roughness, increase floodplain interaction and habitat complexity, promote out of channel flooding and activate 1.25 miles of side channels. It is expected that the project will promote longer periods of hydrologic production, decreased stream temperatures, increased low velocity habitat, increased fish cover and increased riparian deciduous vegetation. The project placed wood within 1.25 miles of the upper Grande Ronde River and 1.25 miles of side channels, planted 9,000 deciduous seedlings and 2,000 conifer seedlings and will plant 10,000 cuttings in the Spring of 2020. Project partners included: Grande Ronde ModeWatershed, Bonneville Power Administration, and the US Forest Service.

Background

Historic management that included beaver trapping, mining, roading, the Woodlee Campground and an altered fire regime degraded the Woodlee Reach of the Upper Grande Ronde River watershed's ecological form and function. The loss of functional meadow and stream habitat adversely effects the survival and rearing of native salmonids, other fish, and wildlife species.

Work Done

Structure Construction:

Structure construction involved ground based equipment to construct the structures below. The proposed project placed large wood instream (830), boulders (53), racking material (189:10 yard loads), and floodplain wood (~500) into or adjacent to the Grande Ronde River. The project involved 85 structures within 38 sites on 1.25 miles of stream. The structures consist of full spanning jams where side channel activation and floodplain inundation was possible. The rest of the sites involved wood placement to encourage pool scour, fish cover and habitat complexity. The boulders were used for ballast on both structure types.

Side Channels:

There are 1.25 miles of old side channel scrolls that were activated with this project. A large portion of the floodplain wood was placed within these channels.

Planting/Seeding:
A total of 9,000 deciduous seedlings were planted in the project area. The species planted consisted of cottonwood, willow, alder and hawthorne. All of the planting was completed by hand. All areas disturbed by equipment were seeded and mulched with a native grass/forb seed mix after project completion.

Changes from Proposed
No significant changes were made. There was an increased amount of wood and racking material added to the structures, predominately, for fish cover.

Public Awareness or Education
The Forest Service constructed two signs to tell the public of the importance of the wood placed within the project.

Lessons Learned
* Full spanning jam construction is different in streams of this size compared to smaller streams such as Limber Jim and Chicken Creek. This is due to mobilization of the racking material.

* Always plan to have trees close to the project area that can be removed for stream placement. This is essential for fish cover.

Recommendations
* Always plan to have trees close to the project area that can be removed for stream placement. This is essential for fish cover within the structures.

* Prior to installing racking material, make sure that some of your large key members are in place to efficiently utilize the racking material in the structures.

Aquatic Habitat
The project was developed in conjunction with the Grande Ronde Model Watershed technical team through the Atlas process. All of the regulatory requirements were met: NEPA, ESA consultation, and DSL and Army Corps permits were obtained for this project.

Special Conditions
The project required pre-project photos and a project map.

Funding Sources				
Source	Identifier	Cash	Inkind Type	Inkind
Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)	81779	$237,952.00		$0.00
OWEB	218-8205-16553	$112,382.00		$0.00
USDA Forest Service	81779	$0.00	Labor	$28,120.00
USDA Forest Service	81779	$0.00	Materials	$199,401.00

Totals					
OWEB Amount	Non OWEB Cash	Inkind Total	Non OWEB Amount	OWEB Match	Total Project Cost
$112,382.00	$237,952.00	$227,521.00	$465,473.00	414.0%	$577,855.00

Uploaded Files		
Image Type	File Name	Description
Exhibit B	16553.pdf	
Other	OWEB Woodlee Accomplishment Report.docx	Accomplishment report with photos
Map	Woodlee Project - Photo Points map_condensed.pdf	Map of the project area. Photo point numbers are the same as the structure numbers on the maps.