Prospectus of Proposed Project Opportunity

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Opportunity Title

Upper Fly Restoration Project

Opportunity Lead

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Technical Contact

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Landowners

Contacted: Yes
Supportive: Yes
Contribution: NEPA, Trees, Salary.

River

Name: Fly Creek
Mile: RM 7.0 - 9.0
Tributary: Grande Ronde River

Restoration Atlas

BSR: UGR16
Tier: Tier 1

Initial Score: 25
Proposed Score: 16

Restoration Activities

3. Pool Development
9. Restoration of Floodplain Topography and Vegetation
10. Floodplain Construction
11. Perennial Side Channel
12. Secondary (non-perennial) Channel
13. Floodplain Pond - Wetland
14. Alcove
15. Hyporheic Off-Channel Habitat (Groundwater)
17. Riparian Fencing
18. Riparian Buffer Strip, Planting
27. LWD Placement

Species Affected

Focal: Snake River Spring Chinook, Snake River Summer Steelhead.
Other: Redband trout.

Description

The project would construct debris jams and habitat structures at 68 sites within the upper 2.0 miles of Fly Creek (RM 7.0 – RM 9.0). The sites target low gradient areas to increase effectiveness. This would include approximately 1500 pieces of large wood (1300 trees) and 3,400 yards of racking material. All of the wood will be placed with excavators/log loaders. There will be 1-3 pieces of large wood dug into the stream bank at each structure site. In addition, 2 – 5 pieces of large wood will be pinned at each site.

• The 68 debris jams will mimic the Type A Full Spanning Log Jam (Lower Fly Creek Restoration Project, 2020), which includes 2 large trees with rootwads (> 20” dbh) & 50’ long), 4 medium trees with rootwads (14” – 20” dbh & 50’ long), 6 small trees/logs (10” – 14” dbh & 30’ – 50’ long), 2 whole trees, and 5: 10 yard loads of racking material. These structures are designed for floodplain inundation and habitat complexity.

• There will be additional 150 whole trees and 398 logs placed within the stream and floodplain to provide habitat complexity, fish cover, and floodplain roughness.

• Total of 1500 large wood pieces in 2022.

Access for machinery to the stream would also occur off of Roads 5155 400.

There are a total of 1300 large trees needed for the project. Of these, 136

trees will be over 20”, 422 trees will be between 14” and 20” dbh, and 542 trees will be between 10” and 14” dbh. All of the trees will be a minimum of 50’ long (whole trees could be longer).

There will be 1100 trees with rootwads attached obtained from the 5155, 5155 400, 428 & 430 Roads. There will be 200 trees felled within 300’ of Fly Creek (~5% - 35% slopes). Trees within 100’ of Fly creek would not removed, where possible. Approximately, 3,400 yards of racking material will be obtained from the road prisms of the 5155, 5155 400, 428, & 430, and the 5156. The large wood with rootwads attached will be obtained within 20’ of the road prism. The racking material will be obtained within 5’ of the road prism.

There would be 2 miles of elk fence constructed on this project after structure construction is completed. This would consist of two elk exclosures.

All of the disturbed areas will be seeded. Disturbed areas will be ripped. Disturbed areas adjacent to Fly Creek will be replanted with 7,500 deciduous seedlings (cottonwood, willow, alder, aspen) and 20,000 cuttings by the USFS.

The project will occur from May 15, 2022 – May 31, 2023. All of the instream work will occur in July. Tree removal and haul from roads will occur from May 15 – June 30. Rehabilitation, seeding, planting, and fencing will occur from May 15 – May 31, 2023.

Objectives

1: Activate Side Channel Scrolls
Encourage and create perennial side channels through channel spanning log jam construction.

2: Restore Hydrologic Function
Increase hydration of a laterally confined channel to improve groundwater retention through channel spanning log jam construction.

3: Improve Fish Habitat
Restore habitat complexity.

Major Risks

Cultural resources. However, the area has already been surveyed for cultural resources.

Permits and Consultation

ESA Section 7 USFWS: Applicable
ESA Section 7 NMFS: Applicable

COE or DSL Permit: Applicable
Cultural Resources Section 106: Applicable
DEQ 401 Water Quality Permit:

Project Schedule

Year: 2022

Monitoring: (1) Drone: Drone imaging will be collected, yearly, for five years by GRMW.
(2) Stream Survey: Region 6 Level II Stream Habitat Inventory would be conducted prior to (completed) and @ year 1 and year 5 after completion. This monitoring will be completed by the USFS.
(3) Structure construction: Monitoring of structures would involve photo points of before and after operations occur. Follow up photo points would occur at year 1 - 3 after project completion. This monitoring will be completed by the USFS.
(4) Plant/seed survival: Native plantings and seeded areas would be evaluated for survival on a yearly basis for three years after project completion through photo points and determining plant survival. If plant/seed survival is poor, then subsequent planting and/or seeding would occur (depending on funding). This monitoring will be completed by the USFS.
(5) Noxious weeds: Noxious weeds would be monitored, yearly, for three years after project operations. This monitoring will be completed by the USFS.

Project Relations

Multi-phase Effort: No

Preliminary Cost Estimate

Total: $345,000
BPA Funding: $345,000
OWEB Funding:

Design Funding

Design Funds Requested: No