

**St. Joe Workgroup Meeting (Final notes)**  
April 14, 2004

**Work Group Members:** Denise Best, Wes Case, Dave Spicer, John Walters, Bernie Lionberger

**Forest Service:** Chuck Mark

**Meeting Agenda**

Chuck Mark presented the agenda for the meeting. This meeting was to focus on the difficult topic of Watershed/Aquatics. Chuck passed out the draft condition statements for Vegetation, Fire, and Wildlife to be reviewed and discussed at the April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Dave Spicer agreed to organize the general statements contained in the draft Wildlife Condition Statement for consideration on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Review and Approval of the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting notes**

The group approved the April 1<sup>st</sup> notes with two exceptions:

1. Dave Spicer was not present
2. Dave Galantumini was present

**Desired Condition Statements:**

**WATERSHED/AQUATICS**

General thoughts and suggestions:

- Monitoring activities should be stressed in the new Forest Plan.
- Move roads out of creek bottoms where possible.
- Reviewed Map #4 for Watershed from the St. Joe Geographic Area document, to locate troubled areas.
- Other thoughts on how to approach the problem include:  
Decommission unnecessary roads and roads not built to standards  
Why not just pull culverts and let mother nature take the roads back  
Users still use many roads, access is an issue  
Most water quality limited streams are in mixed ownership  
Secondary benefit of pulling roads is wildlife security

Roads needed for fire protection

Road density vs elk security study done using high, medium, and low road densities done by Dave Leftik

Desired Future Condition Statement: WATERSHED/AQUATICS

"Improve and protect watershed conditions to provide for water quality, to support ecological functions and intended beneficial uses"

- Provide roads with proper design, placement and function with an emphasis on maintenance
- Emphasize riparian area management to improve water quality/temperature
- Conduct post-fire rehab/restoration where practical and feasible, in a timely fashion to reduce fire effects to water quality

" Provide ecological conditions to sustain viable populations of native and desired non-native species and to achieve objectives for Management Indicator Species (MIS)/ focal species."

- Maintain and/or enhance watershed conditions to ensure desirable populations of Westslope Cutthroat and Bulltrout
- Maintain and/or enhance watershed conditions to provide for viable populations of all native aquatic species

#### **WRAPUP:**

Homework – Review condition statements for Vegetation, Fire, and Wildlife (Spicer will massage the wildlife draft)

Next Meeting: 6 PM, Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Short review of Wildlife Condition Statement followed by Access and Recreation. A meeting on April 29 is almost certain in order to complete Access and Roadless/Wilderness.