

**Forest Plan Amendment No. 30  
Clearwater National Forest  
Latah County, Idaho**

The purpose of Amendment No. 30 is to change the water quality objectives in Appendix K of the Clearwater National Forest Plan for Little Boulder Creek, East Fork Potlatch River, and Ruby Creek, plus, add the Potlatch River.

Currently the water quality objective for Little Boulder, East Fork Potlatch and Ruby Creek is "Minimum viable" and the fish species is listed as rainbow. Minimum Viable does not support the requirements of the Clean Water Act to provide fishable streams. It only provides a minimal population and does not reflect the listing of the species or importance of the area for spawning. Surveys have documented steelhead in Little Boulder, East Fork Potlatch River, and Ruby Creek. Steelhead was listed as a Threatened Species within the Snake River in 1997.

The Potlatch River, a migratory channel for steelhead, had only been listed in Appendix K as a placeholder to indicate the watershed geography. Stream surveys have shown the river to have a C channel and steelhead as the fish species. Spawning occurs in the East Fork Potlatch, and rearing occurs in most of the tributaries of the Potlatch River. Since the Potlatch River is proposed as critical habitat for steelhead, the water quality objective is being changed from "Minimum Viable" to "High Fish" to follow the direction of the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act. Also, as part of the high fish standard, threshold levels of sediment for the Potlatch River should not exceed 10 out of 30 years.

Since the proposed changes are not significant, adoption of this amendment would not significantly change the forest-wide environmental impacts disclosed in the Clearwater National Forest Plan EIS. The Forest Plan would be amended to read as follows:

<b>Watershed</b>	<b>Channel Type</b>	<b>Indicator Species Objective</b>	<b>Water Quality</b>	<b>Allowable Years in 30 Exceeding Threshold</b>
Potlatch River above Forest boundary	C	Steelhead	High Fish	10
Little Boulder Creek	B	Steelhead	High Fish	10
East Fork Potlatch	C	Steelhead	High Fish	10
Ruby Creek	B	Steelhead	High Fish	10