Cow Creek

Nez Perce County, Idaho

Physical Characterization of Riparian Area

2002
Cow Creek of Latah & Nez Perce Counties of Idaho
Physical Characterization of Riparian Area

Photos Taken on March 19, 2002

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Physical Characterization through Photography

- Photographs were taken on March 19, 2002 along Cow Creek in Latah and Nez Perce Counties - Idaho. These photos that follow provide a limited visual baseline of the physical characteristics of the channel and riparian vegetation. With each photograph is a brief description of the location and waypoint location (010, etc.) corresponding to the stream map to follow.

- A brief summary of the characteristics are provided at the end of this report.

- This report is available as a Microsoft Power Point file, which may acquired from David F. Ferguson at the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, at (208) 332-8654 or dferguso@agri.state.id.us. This file is about 3 MB, however, and is not likely to be sent by email. Additional black-and-white copies of this report can easily be made available by request.
Waypoint 034 – Upstream Old Hwy 95.
Waypoint 035 – Upstream Old Hwy 95.
Waypoint 043 - Uplstream Leon Rd. (State Line)
Summary Conditions

- Reed Canary Grass
  - Channel stability is primarily provided by only grass-like vegetation, likely viewed.
- Riparian Grazing Impacts is evident at waypoints 038, 039, 041, & 042.
- There is virtually no woody species along the channel throughout the area.
- The adjacent lands uses crop land and some pasture land.
- The adjacent land ownership is private.
The degree of grazing impact is not known due to limited visual access to riparian settings, such as among dwellings, farmsteads, cropland, etc. Livestock grazing is not occurring within riparian area, whether in rural or urban streambank stability seems good. Management is excellent. Herbaceous and woody species are vigorous and low grazing is likely occurring but either fenced away from the riparian area and/or or woody species as much for stability; substitute controlled stream or river. Compromised. Large river system that does not depend on streambank herbaceous somewhat over-utilized but streambank stability may still be intact, though shape indicates impact from over-use by livestock. Moderate: Obvious that grazing occurring and herbaceous and woody species are poor condition if still present, compromising streambank stability; streambank over-utilized, in high grazing is having an impact on the riparian areas. The rating includes a high, moderate, low, or applicable (na) or unknown (?). Notation: The objective of the following map is to describe, in general, to what degree Grazing Impacts

Summary of Grazing Impacts
Riparian Grazing Impacts