Bonneville Power Administration
Fish and Wildlife Program FY99 Proposal

Section 1. General administrative information

Reduce Sediment In Frazer Creek, Beaver Creek, Methow River

Bonneville project number, if an ongoing project 9028

Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding
USDA Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District

Business acronym (if appropriate) FS

Proposal contact person or principal investigator:

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Subcontractors.

Organization	Mailing Address	City, ST Zip	Contact Name
bid contract			

NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses.
Please add as appropriate

NMFS Biological Opinion Number(s) which this project addresses.
This project will aid preservation of environments needed to abide with the Endangered Species Act.

Other planning document references.
Frazer Integrated Resource Analysis Plan (Okanogan National Foest, July 1996), pages 44, 45, 73, 76; Middle Methow Watershed Analysis (Okanogan National Forest, March

1997), pages 105,106; Frazier Creek Evaluation Report (Molesworth, September 1997) page 1.

Subbasin.
Methow River Subbasin

Short description.
Build a riparian let-down fence to control livestock distrubution to reduce sediment in Frazer Creek and control livestock access to Highway 20.

Section 2. Key words

Mark	Programmatic Categories	Mark	Activities	Mark	Project Types
X	Anadromous fish	X	Construction	X	Watershed
*	Resident fish		O & M		Biodiversity/genetics
	Wildlife		Production		Population dynamics
	Oceans/estuaries		Research	*	Ecosystems
	Climate		Monitoring/eval.		Flow/survival
	Other		Resource mgmt		Fish disease
			Planning/admin.		Supplementation
			Enforcement	*	Wildlife habitat en-
			Acquisitions		hancement/restoration

Other keywords.
sediment; livestock, grazing

Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects

Project #	Project title/description	Nature of relationship
	not applicable	

Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules

Objectives and tasks

Obj 1,2,3	Objective	Task a,b,c	Task
1	reduce sediment delivery to Frazer Creek, increase water	a	build a let-down riparian fence

	quality, increase water holding capacity in wet areas		
2	control livestock access to Highway 20	a	build a cattle guard on the South Summit Road
		b	build a cattle guard on road 41-600

Objective schedules and costs

Objective #	Start Date mm/yyyy	End Date mm/yyyy	Cost %
1	6/1999	9/1999	67.00%
2	6/1999	9/1999	33.00%
			TOTAL 100.00%

Schedule constraints.
Extremely late spring snow melt might slow start of the project. Also, extreme fire season could postpone project

Completion date.
1999

Section 5. Budget

FY99 budget by line item

Item	Note	FY99
Personnel	FS range conservationist	$3,500
Fringe benefits		
Supplies, materials, non-expendable property	fence post, wires, staples, cattleguards, etc.	$19,019
Operations & maintenance		
Capital acquisitions or improvements (e.g. land, buildings, major equip.)		
PIT tags	# of tags:	
Travel		
Indirect costs		
Subcontracts	fence construction contract	$15,154

Other		
TOTAL		$37,673

Outyear costs

Outyear costs	**FY2000**	**FY01**	**FY02**	**FY03**
Total budget				
O&M as % of total				

Section 6. Abstract

This project would build 3.5 miles of fence to protect Frazer Creek from grazing cattle. Frazer Creek, which empties to Beaver Creek and then the Methow River, is in very poor condition due to sediment deliver. Keeping cattle out of the creek would lessen sediment delivery and help protect spawning areas of anadromous fish in Beaver Creek and the Methow River, as well as directly improving habitat for fish in Frazer Creek.

Section 7. Project description

a. Technical and/or scientific background.

The Middle Methow Watershed Analysis states that Frazer Creek was informally surveyed during the 1993 Beaver Creek survey. The analysis showed that Frazer Creek was unlikely that the stream meets forest required management objectives. Pools observed were filling in with sediment. Small-sized woody debris was abundant, while large sizes were scarce. Rainbow trout and brook trout are present in Frazer Creek. There is no data available on water temperature and width/depth ratios for this drainage. The proposed project is located in Township 33N., Range 23 East, Sections 1, 12, 11, and 15.

b. Proposal objectives.

Objectives are:

1. reduce sediment delivery to Frazer Creek/Beaver Creek/ Methow River in order to improve habitat for anadromous and resident fish
2. improve the riparian habitat in Frazer Creek in order to improve habitat for anadromous and resident fish
3. keep livestock off of Highway 20, a major cross-state route

c. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs.

The Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl calls for the Forest Service to manage land to "maintain and restore the sediment regime under which aquatic ecosystems evolved," in its Aquatic Conservation Strategy objective #5. (B-11)

PACFISH has riparian goals to maintain or restore: (2)stream channel integrity, channel processes, and the sediment regime under which the riparian and aquatic ecosystems developed; (5)diversity and productivity of native and desired non-native plant communities in riparian zones; (6)riparian vegetation to (c)help achieve rates of surface erosion, bank erosion and channel migration characteristics under which the communities developed; (7) riparian and aquatic habitats necessary to foster the unique genetic fish stocks that evolved within the specific geo-climatic region and (8)habitat to support populations of well-distributed native and desired non-native plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate populations that contribute to the viability of riparian-dependent communities)(USDA, February 1995 pageC-4)

The September 10, 1996 'Return to the River--Restoration of Salmonid Fishes in the Columbia River Ecosystem' report by the Independent Scientific Group states that "the most urgent priority for active intervention is to implement selected restoration measures necessary to prevent further ecological damage.....examples of such interventions include...removal and exclosure of domestic livestock from key areas....." (p354). The project would help restore Frazer Creek and prevent further ecological damage there and downstream.

d. Project history

This is not a continuing project.

e. Methods.

The project would build 3.5 miles of riparian fence to prevent cattle grazing on national forest land from further degrading Frazer Creek. The fence would be a let-down fence which is ideal in this area of heavy snow where seasonal movement of mule deer is also a factor. Such a fence would also not interfere with winter recreation, since it would be laid down flat for each winter.

The fence posts would be spaced not more than thirty feet apart, with wood stays between. Trees in line with the fence will be substituted for posts. A scab will be used to hold wires to trees.

Two cattle guards would be needed to control livestock movement along roads. A double cattleguard and gate will be needed just beyond the South Summit snow park on Road 41,

and a cattleguard and gate will be needed on the Pole Pick Road 41-600, approximately one quarter of a mile above the Pole Pick Road junction with Highway 20.

f. Facilities and equipment.

Fence wire would consist of three smooth wires, and posts will be of steel or wood. The cattleguards would be standard pre-cast concrete and steel construction

g. References.

Okanogan National Forest. July, 1996. Frazer Integrated Resource Analysis (Environmental Assessment for Electric Timber Sale and Associated Activities)

Okanogan National Forest. March 1997. Middle Methow Watershed Analysis

Molesworth, Jennifer. September, 1997. Frazer Creek Fisheries Evaluation Report

Section 8. Relationships to other projects

Relationships with other projects unknown.

Section 9. Key personnel

Frank Hanford is the Methow Valley Ranger District range specialist. He has directed and administered the management of district grazing allotments and have worked directly with livestock operators to develop grazing plans for over 20 years on the Okanogan National Forest. He has been involved in the budgeting process and in all aspects of Forest Planning that affects livestock grazing and management, including administering and developing plans for contracts on range improvements for the installation of fence lines, water developments, stock driveways, seeding programs, etc.

He has a degree in wildlife and range management from Humboldt State University in Arcata, California.

Examples of related work that Frank Hanford has completed include;

1) Input into 20-mile environmental assessment--1997, range noxious weeds and special uses

2) Fence contract for pole fence in the Whiteface Fire area--1997

3) Gate Creek riparian pole fence plan and contract--1997

4) Wolf Range Allotment Environmental Analysis/Management Plan update--1996

5) Operating plans for district grazing allotments--1998

Frank Hanford would oversee the fencing and cattle guard project, including supervision of employees or contractors. He would administer the contract.

Section 10. Information/technology transfer