

# Respect the River!



**North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Advisory Group  
(WAG) and USDA Forest Service Coeur d'Alene River RD**



# Recreation Issues









# Managing Recreation

- River Management Plans
- Education
- River Ranger
- Rehabilitation

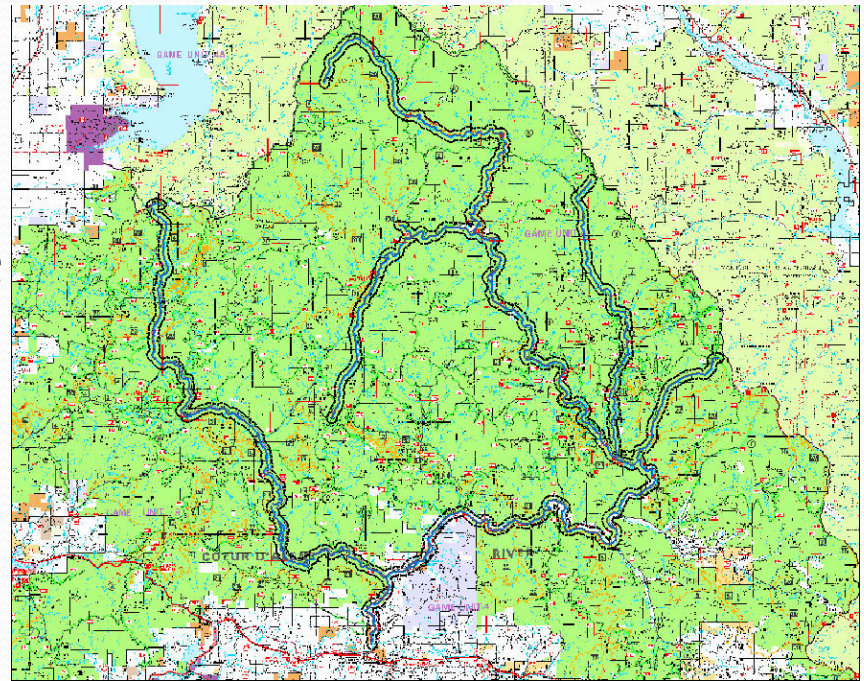




# CDA River Corridor Management Plan

Management tool for the USFS

- Covers 150 miles along the North Fork and Little North Fork of the CDA River, Shoshone Creek, Lost Creek and Tepee Creek



Coeur d'Alene River Corridor Planning Area



# Collaboration with WAG

## Cooperative Recreation Plan

- North Fork CDA Cooperative Recreation Plan focuses on lower 21 miles of the North Fork CDA River
  - Public and private land from the confluence with the South Fork CDA River to Prichard Creek
- Both plans share the same
  - Goals
  - Strategies
  - Education Plan

Seamless implementation across jurisdictions



# Down by the River...





# Need for Action

- Sanitation along the river corridor
- Safe and adequate public access to the river
- Resource Protection





# Goals of USFS River Plan

1. Provide recreation users with a variety of safe, enjoyable, high quality recreation experiences along the corridors of the North Fork and the Little North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River.
2. Restore and rehabilitate riparian areas where resource damage has occurred and prevent new impacts associated with recreational use.



# Goals continued

3. Identify locations where development may be appropriate to improve access and safety for recreationists.
4. Provide a framework for identifying locations that need rehabilitation.



# Goals continued

5. Educate river corridor users about the river environment, safety, recreation opportunities, “Leave No Trace” ethics, and how to avoid negative environmental impacts.
6. Maximize efficiency and effectiveness by developing partnerships and volunteer opportunities with federal and state resource management agencies, counties, landowners, user groups and other entities.



# Goals continued

7. Encourage development and rehabilitation that supports the local economy by promoting existing local businesses and increasing local employment.

8. Maintain and restore watershed, riparian, and stream channel conditions needed to conserve fish habitat for westslope cutthroat trout, bull trout, and other aquatic species, and to provide a high quality recreational fishing experience on the North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River.



# Site Prioritization

Sites prioritized using the following resources:

- Condition and use inventories of dispersed sites
- WAG Cooperative Recreation Plan
- Professional judgment (recreation, aquatics, etc)



# High Priority Sites for Development and Rehabilitation

1. Graham Creek
2. Hudlow Junction
3. Prichard Bridge Day Use
4. Presidents Flats
5. Grizzly Creek
6. Shoshone Gauge Station
7. Big Hank Meadows
8. Milepost 2.8 on Old River Road
9. Kit Price
10. Bumblebee Bridge







# *Implementing Respect the River*

## Educate the Public

- Respect the River Campaign
  - Leave No Trace
  - Pack it In/ Pack it Out
- River Safety
- Fishing Regulations and Good Practices

## Post and Maintain Signs

- Access signs and Educational signs

## River Ranger

- Focus will be on education
- Citations/Warnings

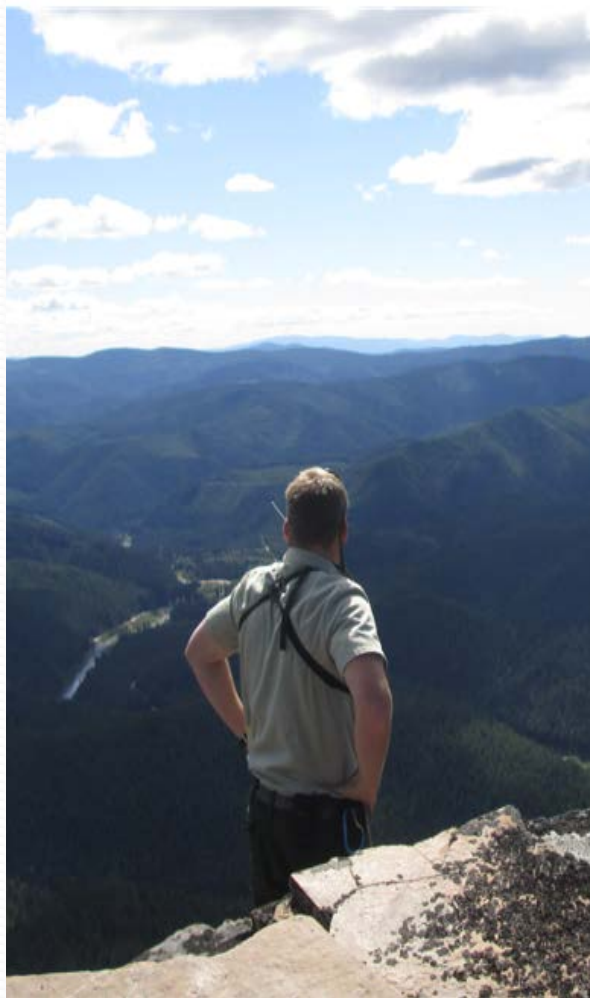


# 2012 Accomplishments





# USFS River Ranger Program



- Forest Protection Officer
- Emphasis patrols on North Fork and Little North Fork
- Floated North Fork at least once a week
- Enforced rules and regulations
- Handed out 'Respect the River' educational materials and safety messages

# Signs and Brochures

- 8 day-use and dispersed campsites with billboards
- Brochures handed out to recreationists and distributed to local businesses





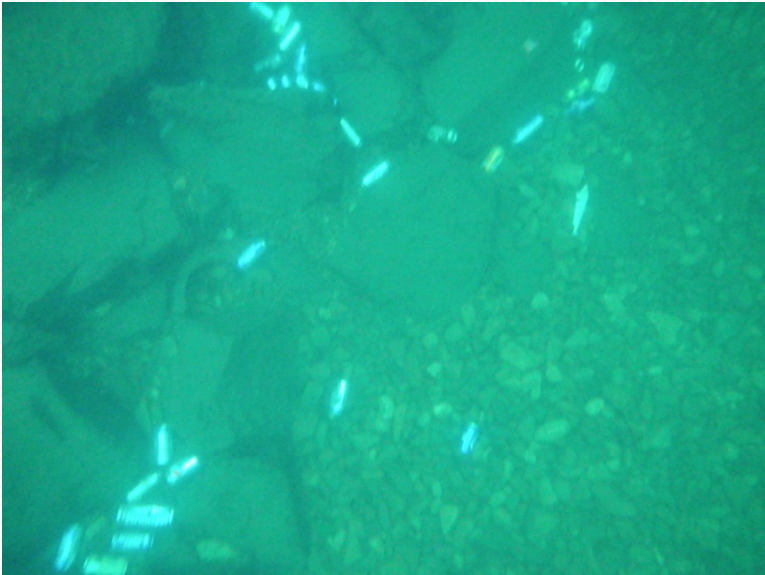
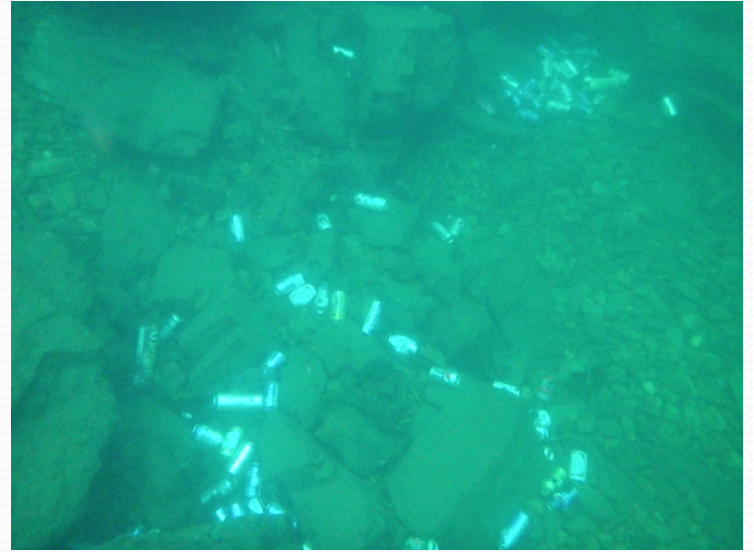


# River Access Sites

- Designation of three launch/access sites:
  - Graham Creek dispersed site
  - Shoshone gauging station
  - Big Hank Meadow



# North Fork CDA River Volunteer Clean Up Day





# River Clean-Up Day

- September 15, 2012
- Over 40 volunteers
- Removed garbage along 18 miles of the North Fork
- Albert's Landing provided food and refreshments for volunteers
- Plan on making this an annual event





# Recycling Bins

- Boy Scout project
- 2 containers constructed that can each hold 2 fifty gallon drums
- Will be installed and utilized during 2013





# Recycling Bags

- Centennial Distributing
  - 200 mesh recycling bags for use on the river
  - 400 plastic liners to use in the recycling bins



# River Plan Goals for 2013

- Respect the River Fund
- River Ranger
- Signs and Brochures
- Banners on bridges
- Education and outreach funding
- **More** recycling Bins
- Upgrades at Shoshone Gauging Station
- River Cleanup Day August 24



# We need your help!

You can help by....

- Assisting with grant funding
- Donating funds
- Participate in the River Cleanup on August 24, 2013
- Adopt a campsite/ stretch of river

# Adopt-a-Campsite/River Mile Program

- Groups or individuals may sign-up
- Must clean site(s)/ river bank 4 times/year
- Duties include:
  - Cleaning out fire rings
  - Picking up garbage
  - Removing signs of human activity such as tent trenching, ropes and wires, nails in trees, dismantling primitive benches, tables, toilets
  - Breaking up excessive fire rings
- Sign will be placed at site/area to show who has adopted it



# Current Partners

- WAG
- North Idaho Fly Casters
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation & Development Council (RC & D)

# *Looking for potential partners!*

