

Sunday May 20, 2007

Jeff, Allyn, Greg, and Sam,

The heavy equipment arrived on Friday, and the project layout is completed. Jon was working with the FS late last week to make sure we can legally take boulder (and even a few trees) from the Forest. We will begin toppling trees tomorrow morning at 8:00am. Boulder collection along the forest service road will likely commence late Tuesday or Wednesday, and I anticipate starting work on Reach 24E either mid-day Thursday or Friday morning. I will be wrapping up operations around 2:00 - 3:00pm on Friday, due to the Holiday Weekend and not wanting to interfere with canyon rec. operations.

Internet service is extremely limited in the area, & I will be staying on-site throughout the project, so real-time photography of work progress is not likely going to be possible. If I can get cell phone service, I may be able to send out short text e-mails concerning progress.

Greg, I noticed in the attached messages below you have invited a reporter from the Gazette to come on the work site. FIN-UP, Inc's policy regarding on-site press visits is quite specific. Please be certain that this individual understands that we do not grant interviews during project implementation, and that I am unable alter the schedule of work for their convenience (photo shoots, delays, etc). I suggest that Jon Bruno from CUSP and a representative of CMCTU accompany the reporter.

Lastly, the attached messages also reference the possibility of arrainging fishing at Spinney Mtn Reservoir when GRTU visits in August. I recently spoke with Jeff Spohn from CDOW, and he indicates that the New Zealand Mud Snail now extends downstream from Elevenmile Picnic Ground into the lower electrofishing sites. It's a safe assumption that they are probably within Camp Alexander at this point also. There has also some discussion as to whether or not Formula 409 is effective at removing snails from equipment. I have stopped using 409 in favor of a much more powerful biocide called Sparkquat, but this stuff is pretty hazardous to handle. I believe at this point, the most effective method of limiting spread is to freeze your gear. Just a thought, but I would suggest that any trips to other areas outside of the Canyon be scheduled on different days so that the participants can freeze their waders overnight in the Camp's large freezer.

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Greg,

Here is the info you requested

Eleven Mile Canyon Restoration History

1992 – CDOW/USFS Demonstration Project Agreement
Fishing Regs changes proposed

1993 – USFS Basin-wide Stream Habitat Surveys (including the Camp A property)

1994 – IFIM Site Established at Springer Gulch
(IFIM = Instream Flow Incremental Methodology)

1996 – Demonstration Project Begun at 4 sites

1999 – Demonstration Project Completed

2001 – San Dimas Structure Study Completed
Five Year Plan for Canyon Restoration Developed
Participating Agreement with BSA signed

2002 – Hayman Wildfire – Trees for Trout Initiative Started

2004 – First T4T Project Completed at the IFIM Study Site

2005 – Centennial Grant – All USFS T4T Sites Completed

2006 - Elevenmile Picnic Ground Channel Reconstruction Completed

2007 - Camp Alexander T4T Project

You can download the PowerPoint Presentation from the FIN-UP FTP site. It will be in the Fountain Creek Project area in the directory named "Other".

The file name is Camp Alexander.ppt - it's pretty large - approx 21 MB

You can access the FTP site using any standard FTP client.

User Name: ferc_fin-up.com

Password: ferc

port:21

Sunday May 27, 2007

The in-stream and bank work is complete!

We had a very interesting week, with flows above Spinney Mountain Reservoir more than doubling to 400+ cfs when Antaro Reservoir began spilling, threatening to put the entire project on indefinite hold, and a freak late May snowstorm that dumped 4" of snow on the site. We were notified by Aurora water on Tuesday that they would need to begin moving additional water out of Spinney by Thursday evening or Friday morning, so we decided to work longer shifts in order to try to complete the work by the weekend. Fortunately, we found relatively easy operating conditions in the reach, with less bedrock/boulder in the channel, which facilitated the installation of the Instream structures, and were able to complete all four sub-reaches Friday afternoon. I removed the last of the heavy equipment from the project and cleaned up most of the construction layout flagging and stakes yesterday. All told, we completed the following work:

- 92 spruce and ponderosa pine trees harvested
- 2 Fire breaks created from harvest
- 1 Dispersed campsite created from harvest
- 325 Boulders collected from the Forest Service Road (equivalent of \$13,000.00 contribution by USFS)
- 700 feet of stream channel narrowed and deepened
- Approximately 1,800 ft of actively eroding river banks stabilized using large wood toe slope protection.
- 7 low channel log vanes installed
- 9 Log/boulder J-hook vanes installed
- 3 Large "habitat" trees installed
- 8 boulder J-hook vanes installed
- 1 Double log/boulder cross vane installed
- 2 secondary channel log vanes installed

All tree structures anchored with 2 Manta-Ray anchors. Cables have been wrapped and clamped
Somewhere between 250 - 300 full willow clumps and sedge mattes planted (I haven't had a chance to count them yet)

The work remaining is strictly hand rehab, and there is not really too much of that. I think we can get the lion's share of it done during the June 9 workday, and the scouts can continue to plant willow cuttings along the newly constructed stream banks throughout the summer season. I took many photographs during the project, and will post them this weekend to the FIN-UP FTP site. I was wondering if perhaps the Gazette reporter could be rescheduled for the June 9 workday. I think it would make a lot more sense for him to see TU at work than FIN-UP and Chaparral Const. I can provide them with any heavy equipment/installation photos they might need.

Overall, I'm pleased with the way the project turned out. I sometimes like to joke that "if you build it, they will come", and on this project it really was the case. We literally had trout swimming around the excavator during this project, following us from the start at the upstream boundary all the way through the project. Walking the project yesterday afternoon, I observed fish in all of the newly constructed structures, and even caught a 17" rainbow out of the 2nd Log Rock J-Hook structure near the top of the project, in an area that had previously exhibited severely limited holding cover.

Thanks again for all of your support in completing the final piece of Trees for Trout in Elevenmile Canyon.

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As promised, photos of the project, a power point presentation describing the history of Trees for Trout, and a project map have been posted to the FTP site.

FIN-UP's Web Hosting Provider is no longer supporting Internet Explorer 7 based passive FTP, so you will need to download a stand-alone FTP client in order to get the files. The one I'm using, and am certain will work is FileZilla 2.2.21 The link to download this free software is

http://downloads.sourceforge.net/filezilla/FileZilla_2_2_31_setup.exe?modtime=1172667588&big_mirror=0

To get to the FTP directory, you will need the following information:

FTP Address: fin-up.com (don't use ftp:// or http:// prefix)

FTP User Name: bsa_fin-up.com

Password: bsa

Port: 21

This will dump you directly into the **Camp Alexander** directory on the FTP site, and locks the user from other directories, so you can feel free to pass this info on to your media folks or whomever. The directory contains a **Photos** sub-directory holding the photos of the tree harvest, rock collection, and stream habitat installations. Please feel free to e-mail me if you have any problems accessing this data.



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