Utilizing Helicopters To Restore Salmonid Habitat

Tucannon River

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Lower Tucannon Basin (semi-arid, 10" rain) Mighty Missoula Floods 200' Palouse Falls & Wager



APRIL 2012 ALASKA AIRLINES | HORIZON EDITION 31



2. ALASKA AIRLINES | HORIZON EDITION APRIL 2012

GATLE REINWATER

Going over Palouse Falls=Unpleasant Experience



Upper Tucannon Basin

Fire Effects; Uplands, Riparian, Stream, Fish Kill



In Addition to Fires, Historical Anthropogenic Changes...



Result=Channel Simplification!





Reduced Potential Natural Recruitment & Retention of LWD



VIDEO Artificial Supplementation of Trees into River



Duty Now for the Future, DEVOlution Safety First, **ALWAYS WEAR YOUR HELMET**

Staging of Source Trees: Green <u>or</u> Windblown



PROJECT DETAILS:

Tucannon River, RM 48 (adjacent to Wilderness) **Restored 2 miles of salmonid habitat** Added 825 trees and 500 boulders Staff=1 Person **OBJECTIVES: 1. Habitat Complexity** 2. Floodplain Connectivity 3. Fish Passage

Cost of Restoring 2 Miles, Tucannon River?



Aerial View: Objective 1: Complexity



Ground View: Objective 1: Complexity



Ground View: Objective 1: Complexity



Objective 1: Complexity

Tree too Large for Helicopter



Objective 1: Complexity Boulder too Large for Helicopter



Objective 1: Complexity Combining Tree & Boulder



Objective 2: Floodplain Connectivity



Objective 2: Floodplain Connectivity *Before* After



VIDEO Objective 2: Floodplain Connectivity



Objective 2: Floodplain Connectivity (sheet water)



VIDEO Objective 2: Floodplain Connectivity



Objective 3: Fish Passage (Looking Upstream) *Before After*



Objective 3: Fish Passage (Looking Downstream) *Before After*



Treated vs. Untreated Comparison Physical Habitat Improvement







Results/Accomplishments:

- Increased secondary channel length by 1,242 meters
- Increased number of pools from 58 to 167
- Increased habitat-type complexity units from 133 to 258
- Increased overhead cover/undercut from 20% to 46%
- Increased wood complexity from 2.1 to 3.1
- Increased River Complexity Index Value from 3.78 to 9.88

VIDEO Conclusions? <u>Nothing</u> Went Wrong



VIDEO Complications...



CTUIR Fisheries <u>Has</u> Job Openings Call Mike Lambert (541) 429-7240

