Legacy Lands Stewardship

A guide to project opportunities and implementing successful restoration in the lower and middle EFLR watershed.



Existing and Proposed Plantings Lower EFLR

Legend







What factors contribute to warming?

- Long riffles with high shade deficits
- Increased width : depth ratios
 - Increases water surface area in contact with ambient air
 - Erosion of outside river bends major contributor
- Pool : Riffle Ratio
 - Longer, wider riffles
 - Less pools
- Lack of groundwater exchange
 - Main stem is bypassing several major groundwater inputs due to recent avulsions
 - Daybreak
 - Ridgefield pits

Lower Daybreak Example

- 3,250 foot riffle
- No shade
- Minimal groundwater exchange
- Average width ~ 110 feet
- Average depth 1-2 feet
- Summer 2018 saw record # of days > 90°F
- Overnight lows barely under 70°F-for only a few hours
- Recorded daily max temperatures > 14 days in upper 70s, low 80s on main stem

Cold Water Inputs

- Tributaries- many tributary temperatures significantly lower than main stem in lower WS
 - Mason
 - Lockwood
 - Mill
 - Manley
 - Charter Oak
- Groundwater- upwelling of groundwater typically around 60°F during summer, at least several locations downstream of SR 503

Using location in watershed to develop planting strategies

- SR 503 Mason Creek
 - LWD is necessary component for ensuring plant establishment along main stem
- Below Mason Creek Confluence
 - Transition from erosion to deposition
 - LWD not a critical component for success in tidally influenced reach
- Main stem or Tributary?
 - Tributaries require minimal LWD to ensure plant establishment
 - Plantings quicker to effect stream temperatures

Lewis River Ranch Avulsion



Natural LWD Structure

Daybreak Park

Legend





Preserving existing mature riparian canopy versus plant installation

- Focus on shade deficits on main stem EFLR might lead to unintended consequences
- Loss of existing mature canopy will create shade deficits in areas currently shaded
 - LRR demonstrates serious risk of losing established riparian canopy without introduction of LWD
- Plantings on main stem much slower to effect temperatures than tributary plantings.
 - Time needed to establish shade?
 - Growing medium
 - Difficult for plants to establish on main stem gravel bars
 - LWD placements can allow for establishment of 'volunteers'
 - Much more cost effective than planting gravel bars

Reduction of direct solar radiation from riparian plant establishment



Buffering of Temperature Swings



LWD Placements on outside bends can fix multiple issues

- Prevent continued loss of existing canopy
- Allow for plant establishment in shade deficits
- Swanson Powerline Bend
- Pre-project
 - 24-32' of bank lost along 600' stretch during 2015/16 flood season
- Post LWD placements
 - < 1' bank lost following flood season</p>
- Deepening of thawleg, decrease in width throughout project reach*
- Inside bends?







Project Opportunities



Lower Daybreak



Upper Daybreak



Upper Daybreak



Questions?