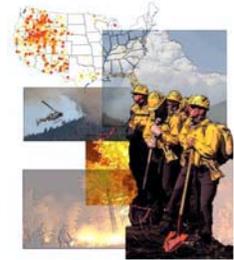


National Fire Plan

Rankin Creek Rehabilitation

Idaho

2002



The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Indian Summer Program staff and their families spent 2 days helping to restore riparian areas on the Yankee Fork Ranger District of the Salmon-Challis National Forest. The area needing restoration was burned by the Rankin Creek Fire in 2000 and is in the headwaters of Rankin Creek, a tributary to the Yankee Fork of the Salmon River.



Rankin Creek is occupied by resident salmonids and is considered critical habitat for Snake River Chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

Woody riparian vegetation in the north and south forks of Rankin Creek were severely burned during the fire. This jeopardized the stability of the stream channel and the associated water quality. Approximately 30 acres needed to be re-vegetated to stabilize and reestablish the native wood species.



A group of 35 volunteers braved unseasonably cold temperatures to help fisheries biologist Tom Montoya and his staff plant approximately 1,000 mountain alder plants. "It was a wonderful opportunity that enabled us to partner with the tribes in bringing their youth out to get in touch with the ground to restore this area." remarked Tom.



Part of the Indian Summer Program is restoration of areas traditionally used by the Tribes; it is their goal to "Help Mother Earth in her struggle to maintain it for use by all."