



Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

P.O. Box 1064 – Occidental, CA 95465 – Phone (707) 874-2907 – Fax (707) 874-9607

Overview of PWA Watershed Assessment and Implementation Process

Goal: To identify, prioritize and cost effectively treat those future sediment sources most likely to impact fish bearing streams and other valuable aquatic and riparian resources if left untreated.

Assessment Process:

1. Conduct sequential aerial photo inventory
 - a. Road construction history (relative to storm history)
 - b. Harvesting or other land use history
 - c. Sources of erosion and sediment production
2. Perform field inventories of potential sediment sources
 - a. Roads and landings
 - b. Landslides
 - c. Gullies and stream channels
3. Develop treatment prescriptions
 - a. Develop site-specific prescriptions
 - b. Estimate heavy equipment & labor tasks & times
4. Prioritize sites for treatment

Implementation:

1. Implement erosion prevention projects
 - a. “Storm-proof” active road and trail systems (private and public)
 - upgrade stream crossings*
 - upgrade culvert sizing*
 - eliminate diversion potential*
 - treat unstable road fills (esp. headwater swales)*
 - excavate unstable road and landing sidecast*
 - install pre-crossing ditch relief culverts (disconnect surface drainage)*
 - outslope road surfaces/remove ditches (where practical)*
 - surface roads high-use rock roads*
 - b. Decommission inactive, unneeded and abandoned roads and trails
 - excavate stream crossings*
 - excavate culvert sizing*
 - treat unstable road fills*
 - decompact roads and landings*
 - outslope surfaces and/or install cross-road drains*
 - c. Treat gullies, eroding streams, landslides, bare areas and other sediment sources
 - redivert streams back into natural drainages*
 - disperse or divert upslope road runoff*
 - apply needed erosion and drainage control treatments to eroding developed areas and sites*
 - plant to revegetate and reforest*



-
2. Develop and implement needed land use changes (erosion prevention)
 - a. Road planning and location (including basin-wide transportation planning)
 - b. Road construction and reconstruction practices
 - c. Road and trail maintenance practices
 - d. Road abandonment (decommissioning) practices
 - e. Winter (wet-weather) land use operations
 - f. Harvesting and other forestry practices
 - g. Agricultural and ranching practices
 - h. Residential development activities
 - i. Other land management activities