Payette National Forest

Request to Conduct Research on National Forest System Lands
(Ref. FSM 2724, FSH 2709.11)

RESEARCHER NAME:

Jesse Davis, undergraduate, Jim Akenson, supervisor

Institution/School Sponsoring Research Project:

College of Natural Resources, University of Idaho

School/Institution Address:

Taylor Ranch Field Station,
HC 83 Box 8070
Cascade, Idaho 83611

Contact phone & Email: 1-888-842-7547, tayranch@direcpc.com

Description of Research (attach Study Plan or Prospectus): "Impacts of Food Availability on Cutthroat Trout Growth and Density in Selected Streams of Similar Size in the Big Creek Drainage"

SEE ATTACHED DRAFT PROPOSAL Jesse plans to quantify the relationship between food availability, diet, and cutthroat growth and abundance. He will sample macroinvertebrates; measure benthic drift; capture and release cutthroat using hook & line fishing equipment: measure fish and obtain stomach contents samples from 30-50 live fish using gastric lavage; collect 3-5 fish for stomach analysis comparisons. He will assist on other aquatic research projects ongoing in Big Creek, including NMFS and ISU-Baxter. Jesse's draft proposal (attached) includes reference to electroshocking, but this techniques will not be used for his study. Jesse's faculty advisor is Dr. Brian Kennedy (kennedy@uidaho.edu), University of Idaho. Brian has an approved University of Idaho Animal Care and Use Protocol.

Location of Research Project --include legals & 1:24,000 or GIS Map:

Research stream stretches will be in Big Creek tributaries, up to and including Crooked Creek. Sampling will be done at least 1 mile from research monitoring sites designated by Krassel Ranger District, unless written permission is obtained from the associated researcher.

Number of researchers and/or support personnel:

Jesse will work alone or have a part-time assistant. He will be supervised in the field by Jim & Holly Akenson and Dr. Colden Baxter from ISU.

How will the researchers access the site(s):

He will work from Taylor Ranch Field Station or travel on foot with a backpack from Taylor Ranch Field Station.

Type of equipment that will be used:

Snorkel equipment, fishing gear, hobo temp data loggers, mesh nets for drift sampling.

Will the researchers be camping on the National Forest? Where?

Probably; study reaches will not be identified until the student arrives, but 2 of the 3 stream reaches will likely be sites that require camping.

Date(s) and time(s) and duration of proposed activities, by location(s):

Priliminary field assessment May 18-25. Field season June 1-August 16, 2005. Jesse will have 3 intensive sampling periods across 3 sites: June 1-10 hook & line samples collected after all permits are obtained, water has come down and methods have been worked out. July 1-10 Hook and line samples collected. July 27-Aug 5 Electroshocking with NMFS scientists. Each of the fishing periods will be followed by benthic and drift invertebrate sampling in each of the 3 sites.

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SIGNATURE DATE

Jim Akenson
Manager/Scientist
Taylor Ranch Field Station