
New Project Overview:

Synthesis of Instream Flow Methods and Approaches



Southern Instream Flow Network

2nd Annual Workshop

December 1-3, 2009



Overview:

- Project Goals and Objectives
- Regions/States Included
- Approach & Scope
- Outcomes/Products
- Benefits
- Comments and Discussions



Project Goals and Objectives:

Provide USFS with a synopsis of the available instream flow methodologies

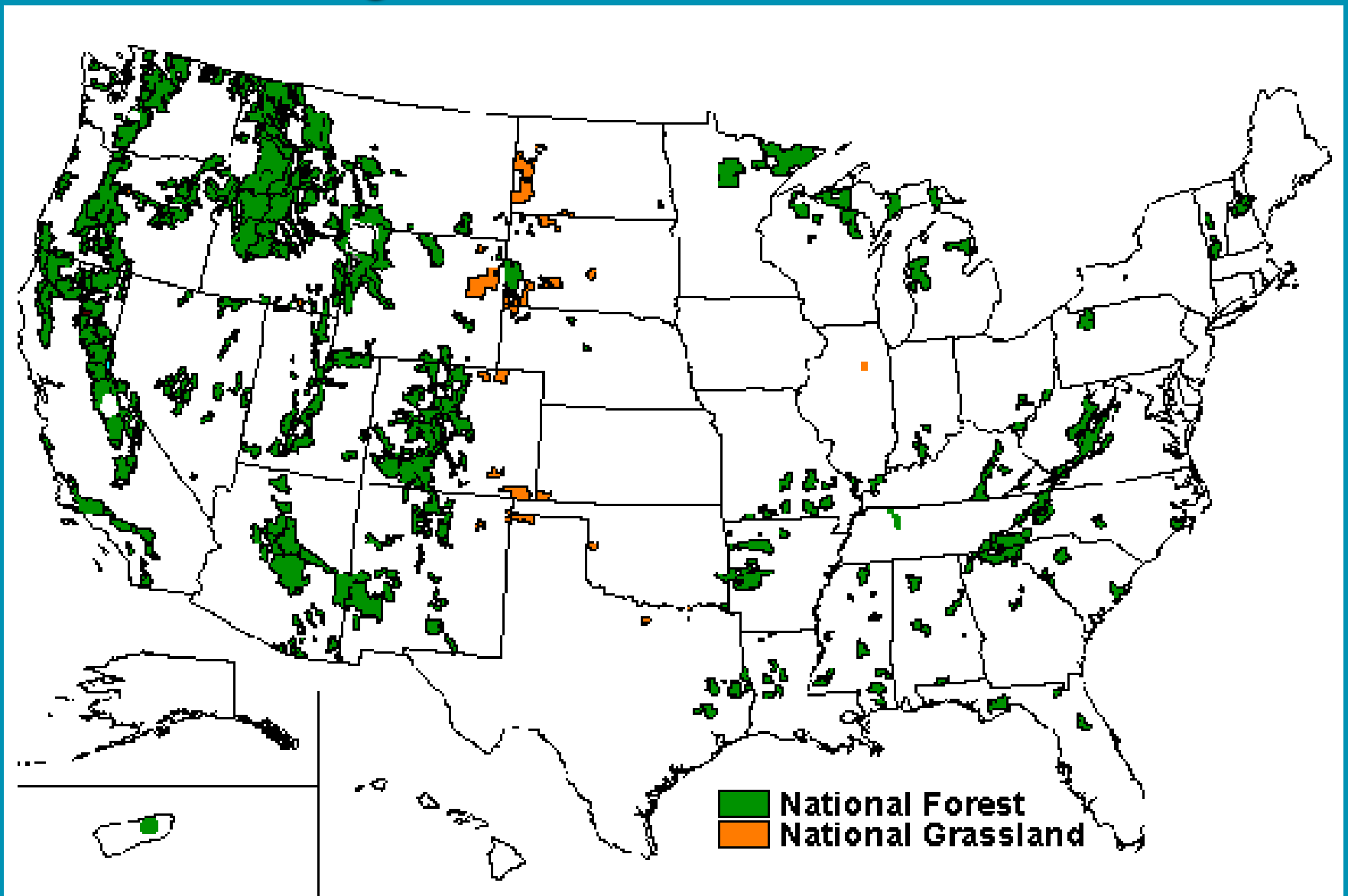
- Identify methods useful for addressing **planning, management, and permitting activities** of the USFS
- Summarize factors necessary for the USFS to understand the **applicability, level of effort, and cost to apply** various methods
- Serve as a source book/guide for regional and forest staff



USFS Regions 8 and 9:



USFS Regions 8 and 9:



Approach:

- Identify USFS Instream Flow Information Needs
- Survey and Classify Available ISF Approaches and Methods
 - Level of Effort/Difficulty
 - Expertise Required
 - Range of Costs
- Applicability to USFS planning, management, and permitting activities



Scope of “Instream Flow Methods”:

- Previously established instream flow methods
- Methods designed for flow needs of *fish, invertebrates, mollusks, amphibians, reptiles, birds, aquatic and riparian vegetation, maintaining stream processes, or groundwater linkages*
- Headwaters to large rivers
- Have been applied on projects outside of the university or research context



Refining the Objectives:

- Identify the Forest Service management and planning needs— what are the EF method **needs** and **how applied** (e.g., permitting, Forest Management Plan development, etc.).
- Operationally define “instream flow methods.”
- Initial classification of instream flow methods



Timeline/Outcomes/Products:

- Early in Process, Expected Completion Spring 2010
- Desktop Resource Summarizing
 - Approaches/Methods
 - Applicability
 - Expertise Needed
 - Level of Effort/Planning-level Cost
- Matrix Approach for Matching Needs with Appropriate Methods



Benefits:

- Improve accessibility of information about EF approaches at the USFS regional and individual forest level
- Improve resource protection and effectiveness through application of appropriate methods



Contribution to SIFN Efforts:

- Improve understanding of information needs and approaches to develop useful, defensible, and protective instream flow standards
- Identify research needs to help meet instream flow protection objectives; Southern Instream Flow Research Agenda



We will be seeking:

- Information about methods being used in your state/region
- Your participation in an on-line survey or specific request for information
- Insights into recent collaborations between state and USFS on instream flow issues



Comments and Discussion

