

Karuk Tribe of California



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January 7, 1994

Mike Tehan
Watershed Analysis Contact
Interagency Implementation Team
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, Oregon 97208

Dear Mike,

In regards to our phone conversation of January 4th, enclosed for your review is some background information describing our efforts to perform a watershed analysis on National Forest lands in 1994. Six Rivers National Forest, the Trees Foundation and the Karuk Tribe of California signed a memorandum of understanding termed Vision 2020 in June 1993 (please see attached MOU). As the information enclosed describes, Six Rivers, Trees and the Karuk Tribe are currently inviting potential cooperators to contribute to the environmental, cultural and economic analysis and planning that we hope to begin as soon as possible on the 52,000 acre Bluff Creek watershed in Humboldt County, California (please see the enclosed potential participant announcement).

The recent decision by the Watershed Analysis Work Group to recommend that only one prototype watershed per National Forest be implemented in 1994 has caused the Vision 2020 cooperators great concern. Although the Region 5 Regional Forester has encouraged the development of Vision 2020, the Orleans Ranger District has not received funds to focus District staff resources on pulling together the necessary information for conducting a watershed analysis of Bluff Creek watershed conditions. In addition, Six Rivers National Forest has identified other watersheds as potential watershed analysis candidates for implementation in 1994. Without funds specifically targeted from the Region for Six Rivers National Forest to implement the Vision 2020 project, this innovative and collaborative effort will not be able to proceed as planned.

The Orleans Ranger District on Six Rivers National Forest selected the Bluff Creek watershed in 1993 for prototype watershed analysis because of the wealth of available natural resource information. Six Rivers National Forest has recently completed a detailed vegetation inventory of the Bluff Creek watershed that we hope to use as an

important geographic information system (GIS) layer along with computerized stand record cards, soils, wildlife and other resource information. In addition, a professor from the University of Washington has requested the opportunity to work with Vision 2020 cooperators to utilize twenty years of previously acquired satellite imagery to analyze changes in forest inventory and land-use patterns in the Bluff Creek watershed (please see attached satellite proposal).

We are hopeful that the Watershed Analysis Work Group will recognize that through Vision 2020 we have already begun to develop a prototype for watershed analysis on federal lands. During your deliberations over the selection of prototype watersheds, please recommend that the Bluff Creek Watershed on Six Rivers National Forest in northwestern California be selected for watershed analysis in 1994.

Please circulate this correspondence to the Watershed Analysis Work Group at their next meeting.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert B Rohde

Robert B. Rohde

Natural Resources Manager, Karuk Tribe

Regional Interagency Executive Committee Representative

RBR/SMS

Enclosure

cc: Tom Tuchmann, Washington D.C. Liaison
Jack Ward Thomas, Chief, U.S. Forest Service
Ron Stewart, Regional Forester, Region 5
Martha Kettle, Supervisor, Six Rivers National Forest
John Larson, District Range, Orleans Ranger District
Mike Evenson, Director, TREES Foundation