

## **APPENDIX 6-1**

### **STREAM CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT POLICY**

In order to meet the ever increasing demands on the renewable natural resources of the stream corridors of the Wallowa Soil and Water Conservation District and to conserve, protect, and develop these resources; it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Wallowa Soil and Water Conservation District to provide for the conservation of the renewable natural resources of the stream corridors of the District; thereby, conserve and develop the natural resources, control and prevent soil erosion, control floods, prevent stream encroachment into agricultural lands, restore vegetative cover, conserve and develop water resources and water quality, prevent impairment of irrigation diversions, preserve and improve fish and wildlife habitat, conserve natural beauty, promote recreational development, protect the tax base, protect public/private lands and property, protect transportation facilities; and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of Wallowa County.

To implement this policy, the board of directors will cooperate closely with the Wallowa County Court to provide leadership in a coordinated program with the landowners, land occupiers, other natural resource users, other local units of government and with agencies of the State and Federal government on projects, programs, and activities calculated to accelerate such policy.

All planning, projects, programs, and activities will be coordinated with the "Wallowa County Comprehensive Land Use Plan" and all local, State, and Federal laws.

For the purposes of this policy the stream corridor will be defined as: the area subject to overflow - including the stream itself and the adjacent bottom land soils. These soils are shown in the County land use plan as J.S.C. & R.L. They also occur as inclusions of other soils on the County Soil Association Map.

To assist technicians, land owners, and others working with the Soil and Water Conservation District in preparing plans and making decisions, the following guidelines are offered. (The guideline numbers do not indicate a priority.)

01. Erosion should be kept to a minimum. In most cases this can

can be accomplished by establishing a good vegetative cover, including any or all of the following depending on the site: grasses, forbs brush, and trees.

02. Where necessary to enable vegetation to become established, some earth shaping and/or structural measures may be required.
03. On some sites because of existing structures (bridges, buildings, roads, etc.), mechanical structures such as rip-rap or rock abutments are necessary.
04. Installation of dikes to restrict flood flows should be discouraged except around buildings.
05. Surge flows or floods should be allowed to spread out over land with movement across land controlled to non-erosive velocities.
06. Stream channel widths within the corridors should be maintained to allow fish passage during low flows and also to allow vegetation to shade as much of the stream as possible and hold water temperature down.
07. Definite sites should be identified and developed where gravel can be removed from the streams annually or as needed to take care of the material coming out of the Wallowa Mountains naturally and to remove the material caused by the floods of 1974 and 1975.
08. Other debris should be removed annually or as needed to prevent the streams from becoming plugged and restricting the flow of water and/or fish.
09. Grazing should be restricted along the streambanks to enable vegetation to be maintained.