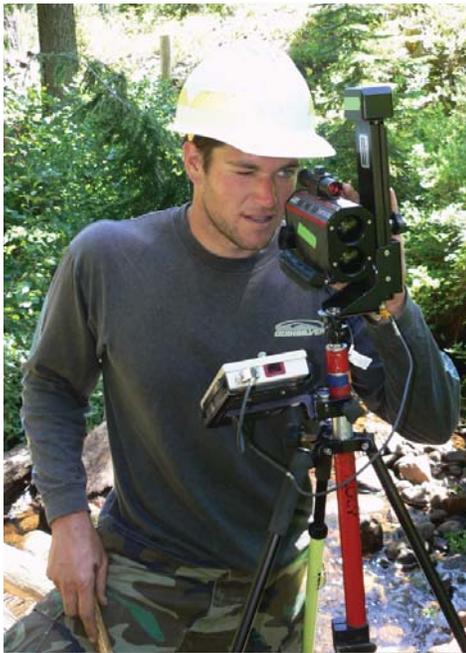




Aquatic & Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program and the Student Conservation Association (SCA) 2008 Field Season Overview



Program Purpose—The purpose of the Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program is to assess the status and trend of watershed attributes to determine if the Aquatic Conservation Strategy described in the Northwest Forest Plan is achieving its goals of maintaining and restoring the condition of watersheds on federal lands in the Pacific Northwest.



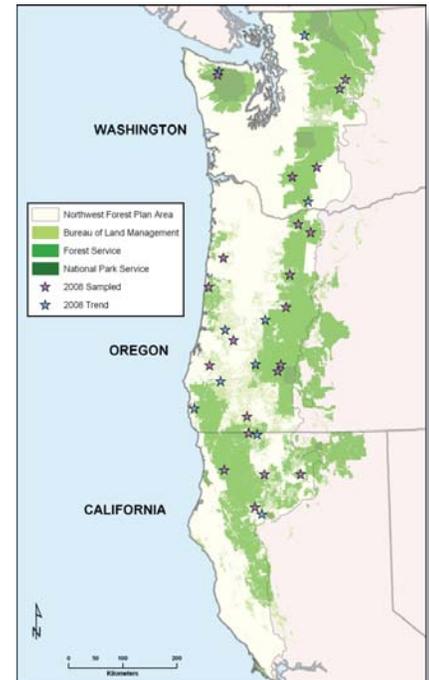
Field crews used state-of-the-art equipment to measure stream channel attributes.

What are the benefits of hiring SCA interns to the US Forest Service and BLM?

SCA interns bring new ideas and energy to our agencies, and provide a way to culturally and geographically diversify our workforce. The interns' commitment and work ethic results in high quality data collected for agency use, while the interns gain valuable work experience. We hope to continue this successful partnership.

SCA Intern Information

Four SCA interns from around the country worked on our stream survey crews. Interns ranged in age from 20 - 23 and were mostly college students looking to gain on-the-job experience and skills in hopes to better their chances of employment once they graduate. Each intern contributed about 560 hours.



Each year field crews collect data from watersheds in western Washington, Oregon, and northern California. This map shows all watersheds sampled in 2008.

What are the benefits to the interns?

- The interns became experts in using state-of-the-art stream survey methods while surveying watersheds throughout the Pacific Northwest.
- Three interns received an AmeriCorps education award benefit of \$1200
- All interns had the option of seeking out academic credit for their internships.
- Interns were provided with quad-style apartments when in town; they each had their own furnished room and shared a kitchen and bathroom.
- The program provided two weeks of training in wilderness first aid and field sampling procedures
- Each intern received a daily per diem allowance and a round trip travel reimbursement
- Seven interns from prior years were hired back as seasonal government workers in 2008.

Student Conservation Association interns spent the summer of 2008 collecting stream data to determine watershed conditions throughout the Pacific Northwest.



Jenine (2007/8) adjusts a stadia rod used for measuring stream width and depth.



We hired four new SCA volunteer interns and seven former interns as government workers.



Anson (2004/5/6/8) looks for aquatic insects



Heather (2008) uses a laser to survey a stream.



Adlena Geraci photo

Emily (2007/8) & TJ (2005/6/7/8) sort aquatic insect samples.



Amanda (2008) sets up the laser with help from Andrew (2006/7/8).