

A CAUTIOUS, BUT OPEN-MINDED,
VIEW OF STEWARDSHIP
CONTRACTING

WHY DO IT AT ALL?

- To restore damaged watersheds/areas?
- To reduce fuel loads?
- Budget \$\$\$\$?
- Engage local business, community leaders, and public in commitment to the land.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Degraded watersheds
- WUI
- Fisheries
- Big game ranges

OPPORTUNITIES

- User-created trails
- Restore roaded areas –unnecessarily high road densities
- Fire???????
- Create model for sustainability – more sustainable the more predictable

CONCERNS

- Financing restoration on the back of unsustainable or ecologically destructive timber harvest
- Wildlife habitat impacts – loss of secure habitat
- Designation by description/privatization

CONCERNS

- Road decommissioning “on the cheap”
- Monitoring/feedback/accountability
- Roadless backcountry lands
- Impacts shouldn't outweigh the restoration benefits

THE BIGGEST Concerns

- What are the BTNF/SNF's restoration needs and where are the needs on the ground?
- Stewardship projects must match up with restoration needs
- Shouldn't be an excuse to build timber-dependent local economies



A CHANCE TO PROVE THE CRITICS WRONG?

- Trust, Trust, Trust
- Measured, scientific, ecologically sound projects
- Not an excuse simply to cut trees
- Scale matters more than any other factor—sustainability

IN APPROPRIATE PLACES



NOT IN INAPPROPRIATE PLACES



TO BE TRULY COLLABORATIVE AND SUCCESSFUL

- *Must* have agreement on the reason and the goal
- *Must* be a transparent and inclusive process
- *Must* have independent monitors
- *Must* build trust with each project
- *Must* have realistic expectations