

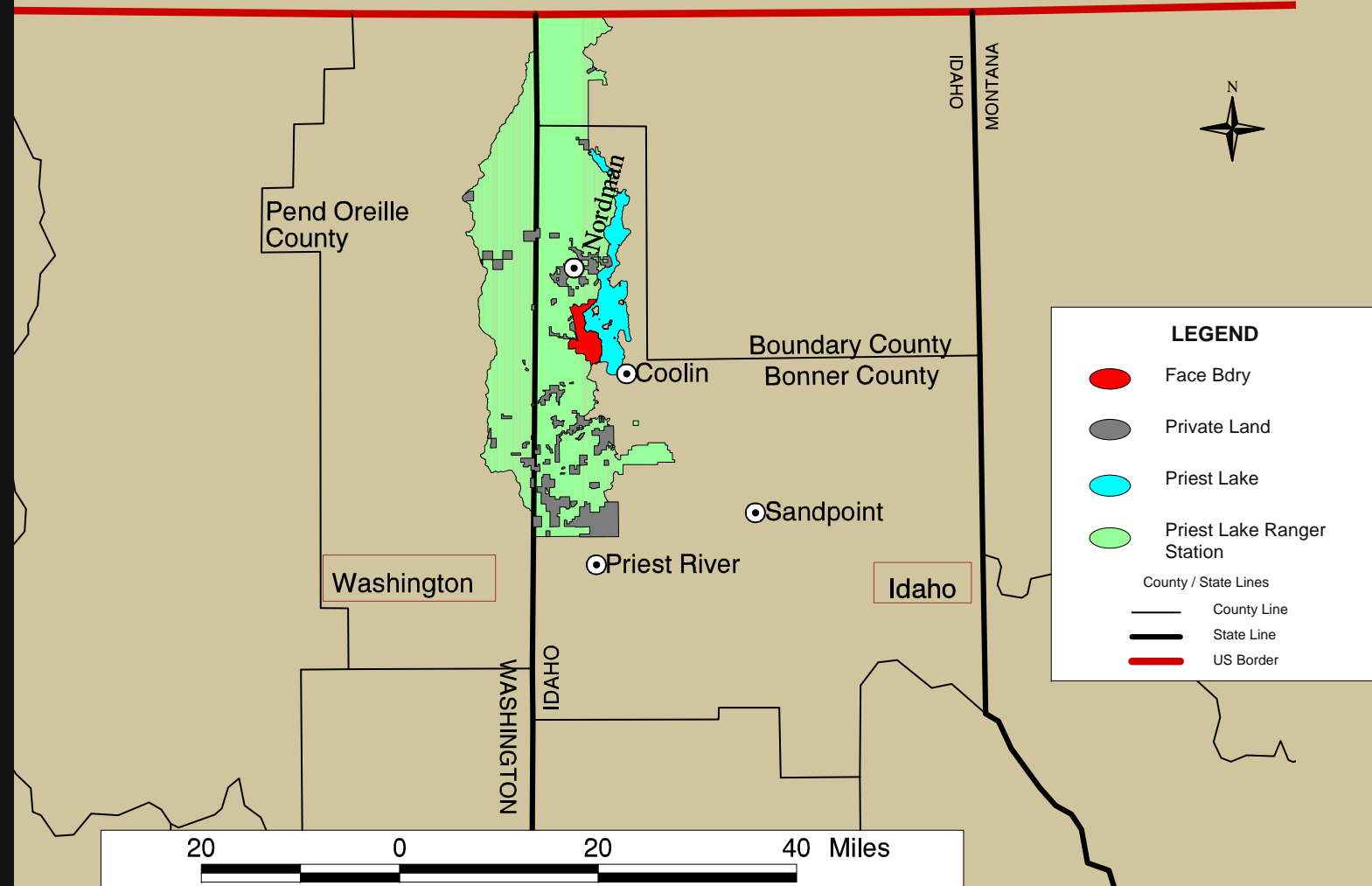
Priest – Pend Oreille Land Stewardship Project



**Idaho Panhandle National Forests
Priest Lake Ranger District**

PRIEST LAKE RANGER DISTRICT LAKEFACE-LAMB VICINITY MAP

Canada



Lakeface-Lamb Overview

7,200 acres in size

2,000 acres intermingled private land

590 residential acres

480 acres planned subdivisions

1,500,000 Recreation Visitor Days

Wildland-Urban Interface



Objectives

- ✓ **Reduce Risk of Fires to Life and Property**
- ✓ **Treat stands with insects and disease mortality or at high risk of crown fire**
- ✓ **Re-introduce Fire into Dry-Site Ecosystems**
- ✓ **Support Public Education & Group Cooperation**
- ✓ **Contribute to Local Economy**

Pilot Stewardship Authority

- Collaborative Partnership
- Single Contract
 - Timber Sale
 - Fuel Reduction Activities
 - Other Resource Restoration Activities
- Goods For Services
- Best-Value
- End Result
- Can be supplemented with appropriated or other dollars (RAC, NFP, Grants)
- Multi-Party Monitoring and Evaluation

Community Partnership

- Communities of Priest Lake, Priest River, Oldtown, ID and Newport, WA
- Stewardship Committee from a cross-section of the community:
 - Chamber of Commerce Representatives
 - Selkirk Conservation Alliance
 - Timber Industry
 - Priest River Development Corporation (PRDC)
- Financially supported by PRDC (a 30-year old 501©(6) non-profit corporation)

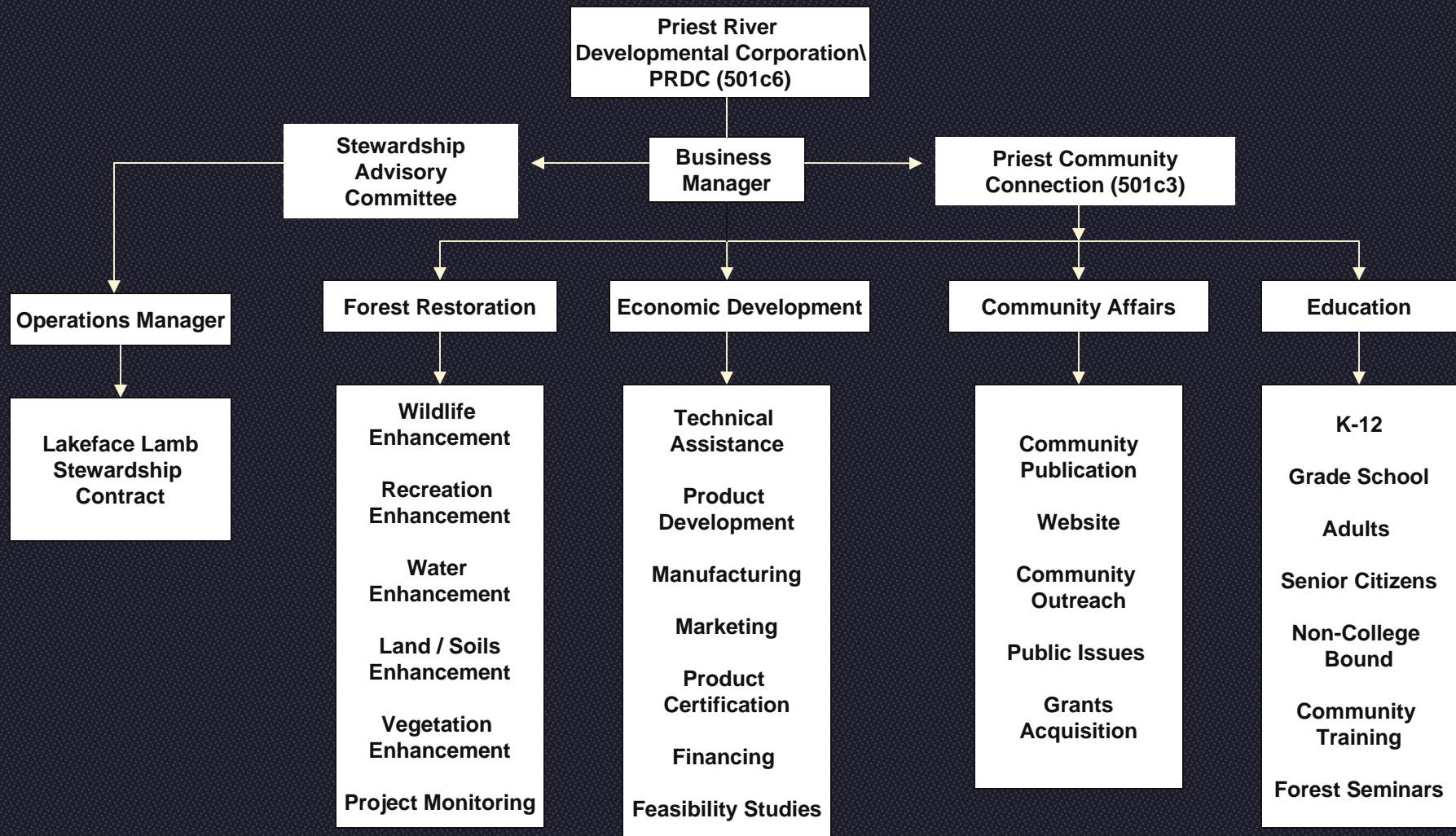
Community Goals

- ✓ Stimulate local employment
- ✓ Develop collaborative means of doing business with the FS
- ✓ Generate profits for community activities
 - Community education and training
 - Economic development (e.g. economic opportunities for secondary manufacture)
 - Ecosystem restoration
 - Community communications

Forest Service Goals

- ✓ Closer ties with the community
- ✓ Improve contracting mechanism to achieve restoration goals as budgets and workforce decline
- ✓ Develop better utilization of “small diameter” wood
- ✓ Develop local workforce for restoration activities

Community Organization





Stewardship Contract

~ 50,000 tons of sawtimber, pulp, and roundwood (Goods)

Mandatory (70% of value) and Optional Work Items (Services)

Mandatory Stewardship Items

- Reforestation (430 acres)
- Handpiling (275 acres)
- Mechanical Piling (1050 acres)
- Slashing (80 acres)
- Fire Line Construction (560 chains)
- Prescribed Fire Crew Member (assists in underburning 215 acres)
- Leave Tree Protection (2700 trees)



Optional Stewardship Items

Riparian Fencing

6700 ft

Snag Creation

150 trees

Warming Hut Construction

1 structure

ATV Trail Obliteration

2000 feet

Trail Reconstruction

8 miles

Pre-Commercial Thinning

50 acres

White Pine Pruning

60 acres

Noxious Weed Treatment

200 acres

Road Maintenance

5 miles

Interpretive Signs

3 signs

Culvert Replacement

15 culverts

Road Obliteration

4.2 miles

Fishing Access

1 stairway

Status

As of May 1, 2004

Removed 24,378 tons of saw logs, roundwood and pulp

Provided \$1,574,739 of resource to 8 local mills

Paid out \$1,076,268 in local wages for services

Provided \$225,970 in land management activities that include fuels reduction, noxious weeds treatment, road maintenance, tree planting and White Pine pruning

Anticipate another \$300,000 in land management activities this operating season

Threats to Effective Stewardship Contracting

- Timeliness – FS vs. private sector
- Employee attitudes - FS vs. private sector
- Accuracy – FS cruise and appraisal
- Business sense – “paying something for nothing”
- FS personnel turnover
- Economic discouragement of utilization of resource

Obstacles in contracting with a community non-profit organization

- ✓ Inability of current contracting and administrative procedures to share risks in a community partnership
 - a. One-price fits all for stumpage
 - b. Excessive bonding requirements
 - c. Exclusion from contract development process
 - d. Logging and specified timber road construction are not considered services in the contract (Davis-Bacon)

Obstacles in contracting with a community non-profit organization

- ✓ Exclusion of end-result from the contracting process
 - a. Site designs
 - b. Flexibility and ability to adapt

- ✓ Lack of support for community-based groups
 - a. Volunteer “burn-out” due to time delays
 - b. “Zero funding”

Solutions for Sharing Risk

- One price fits all
 1. Break into product groups
 2. Negative value products should be service items
- Pre-payment Timber Sale Bonding
 1. Escrow
- Contract Development Process
 1. Mutual agreement
- Timber sale logging and roads as services
 1. Turn into contract services – no payment bonding required

Solutions for End-Result Contracting

- Remove technical specifications and replace with desired end results
- Allow for adaptive management and creativity
- Develop basal area, tree health and vigor, trees per acre, crown closure, etc. into designation-by-prescription

Solutions for Support to Community-Based Groups

- Community-based “hotshot” teams
- Financial support in networking
- Forest Service needs to learn mutuality of interests – balance of risk and benefit
- Community needs to be involved at earliest ground level
- Need continuation and continuity of stewardship activities at all levels