

STRUCTURE OF THE WRWC



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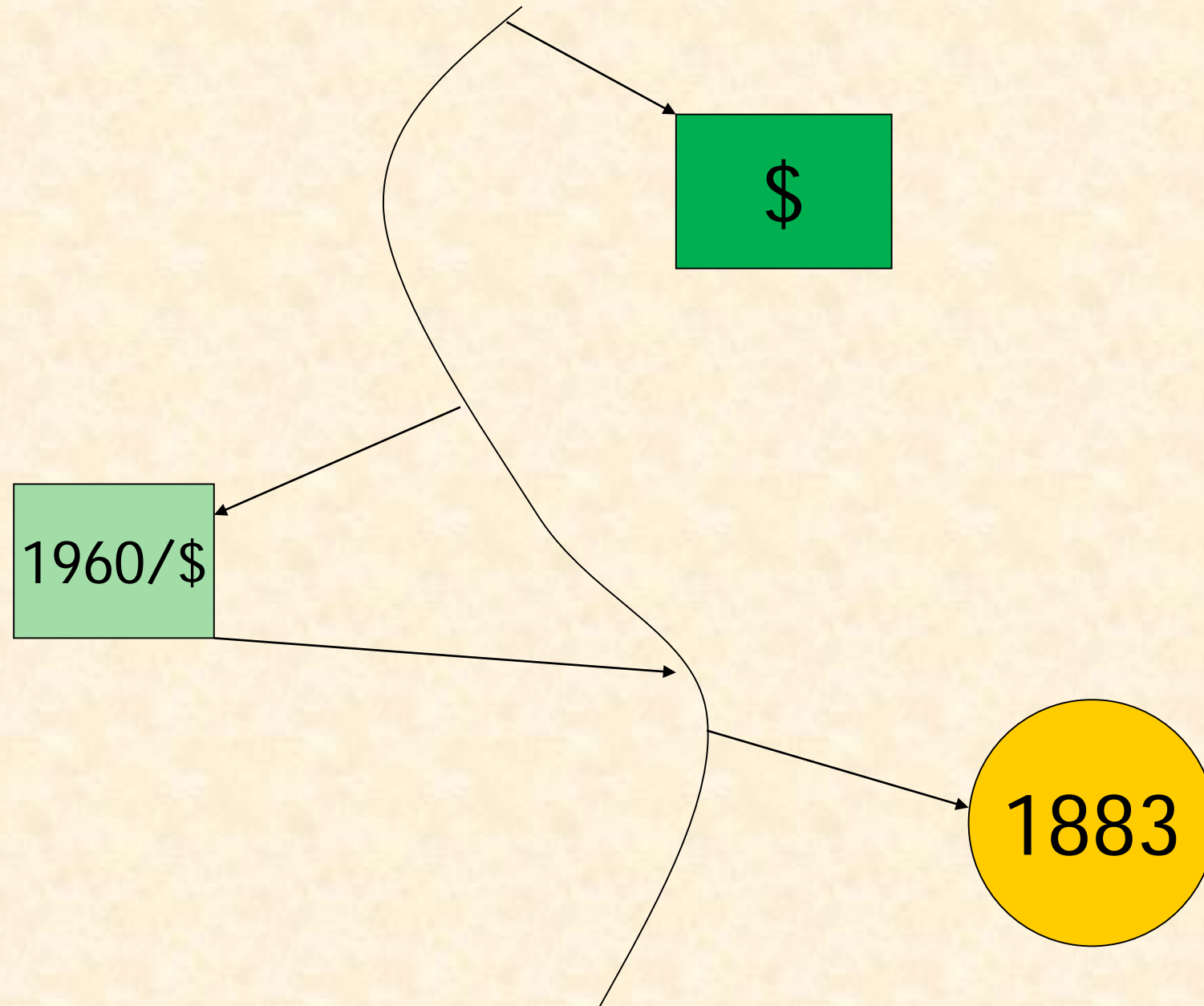
Silver Creek Horseshoe
By Chad Chorney

Overview



- **Evolution of the Wood River Water Collaborative**
- **WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase 1 and Phase 2**
- **Three Organizational Structures**
- **Recommendation**

Basic Wood River Problem



Development of the WRWC

- **Wood River Water Exchange – 2014**
 - Mitigation bank idea
- **Ground Water Districts formed – 2014**
 - Consolidating the ground water users
- **Wood River Water Collaborative – 2015**
 - Mission Statement
 - Objectives and Strategies

Mission Statement



The mission of the Wood River Collaborative is to preserve core community values which include:

- Safe, clean, drinking water to meet the needs of the watershed.
- Sustainable water use for farming and ranching.
- Healthy riparian habitat for fish and wildlife that rely on the Big Wood River, Little Wood River, Silver Creek and their tributaries.

Objectives and Strategies



- The development of Basin-wide objectives have been overtaken by the Big Wood River Management Plan Advisory Committee
- What then remains for the WRWC?

WaterSMART CWMP Phase 1 Grant



A “watershed group” of the Cooperative Watershed Management Act is a grassroots, non-regulatory entity that addresses water availability and quality issues within the relevant watershed, is capable of promoting the sustainable use of water resources in the watershed, makes decisions on a consensus basis, and represents a diverse group of stakeholders, including hydroelectric producers, livestock grazing, timber production, land development, recreation or tourism, irrigated agriculture, the environment, municipal water supplies, private property owners, Federal, state and local governments, and tribes.

Two items in our grant milestones are:

- Watershed Group Development
- Exploring Incorporation Options

INCORPORATION



- In Boise, the Boise River Enhancement Network incorporated.
- It did this to be eligible for WaterSMART CWMP phase 2 grants for projects.

WaterSMART CWMP Phase 2



- May apply through a “fiscal agent”
- Need a mission statement
- Hold regular meetings
- List of Members
- Rules for Decision-Making
- Part of a watershed restoration plan.

Adopt the BWGMP?

STATE SANCTIONED WATERSHED COUNCIL



- Henry's Fork Watershed Council
- Jointly Managed by the Henry's Fork Foundation and the Fremont Madison Irrigation District
- Sanctioned by (H.C.R. No. 52, 1994 Sess. Laws 1535)
- Encourages the Participation of State Agencies

HENRY'S FORK WATERSHED COUNCIL



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Fifty-second Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature authorizes state agencies to participate in the Henrys Fork Watershed Council which is a forum to identify watershed issues and to facilitate long-term solutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recognizes and commends the Henrys Fork mission statement, definitions, duties, facilitation role, and its policy on finances as follows:

COLLABORATIVES



- There are many in Idaho
- Often have a legislative sponsor/convener
- Commonly have:
 - List of Members
 - Rules for Decision-Making
 - Identify the Issues they work on

Organizational Structure

Payette Forest Coalition

- The PFC is an independent organization that provides recommendations to the Payette National Forest line officers on all phases of forest restoration.
- The organization of the PFC consists of a three component structure (Figure 1):
 - o PFC Membership
 - o Steering Team
 - o Committees

RECOMMENDATION



- Form a Steering Committee to Include:
 - BWCC/Water Users Representative
 - GWD/Municipal Representative
 - Conservation Representative
 - At large representative
- Steering Committee will make recommendations on:
 - An Organizational Structure
 - A Schedule for Regular Meetings

RECOMMENDATION

- Rules for Decision-Making
- Recommend Watershed Restoration Plan or Plans for Adoption

BWGMP

- Consider Recommending Legislation if State Agencies Don't Participate
- If acceptable, conservation Interests continue administrative responsibility and will develop and share a list of members



Silver Creek in the Fall. Photo courtesy of Chad Chorney



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