Overview of PWA Watershed Assessment and Implementation Process

Goal: To identify, prioritize and cost effectively treat those future sediment sources most likely to impact fish bearing streams and other valuable aquatic and riparian resources if left untreated.

Assessment Process:
1. Conduct sequential aerial photo inventory
   a. Road construction history (relative to storm history)
   b. Harvesting or other land use history
   c. Sources of erosion and sediment production
2. Perform field inventories of potential sediment sources
   a. Roads and landings
   b. Landslides
   c. Gullies and stream channels
3. Develop treatment prescriptions
   a. Develop site-specific prescriptions
   b. Estimate heavy equipment & labor tasks & times
4. Prioritize sites for treatment

Implementation:
1. Implement erosion prevention projects
   a. “Storm-proof” active road and trail systems (private and public)
      upgrade stream crossings
      upgrade culvert sizing
      eliminate diversion potential
      treat unstable road fills (esp. headwater swales)
      excavate unstable road and landing sidecast
      install pre-crossing ditch relief culverts (disconnect surface drainage)
      outslope road surfaces/remove ditches (where practical)
      surface roads high-use rock roads
   b. Decommission inactive, unneeded and abandoned roads and trails
      excavate stream crossings
      excavate culvert sizing
      treat unstable road fills
      decompact roads and landings
      outslope surfaces and/or install cross-road drains
   c. Treat gullies, eroding streams, landslides, bare areas and other sediment sources
      redivert streams back into natural drainages
      disperse or divert upslope road runoff
      apply needed erosion and drainage control treatments to eroding developed areas and sites
      plant to revegetate and reforest
2. Develop and implement needed land use changes (erosion prevention)
   a. Road planning and location (including basin-wide transportation planning)
   b. Road construction and reconstruction practices
   c. Road and trail maintenance practices
   d. Road abandonment (decommissioning) practices
   e. Winter (wet-weather) land use operations
   f. Harvesting and other forestry practices
   g. Agricultural and ranching practices
   h. Residential development activities
   i. Other land management activities