

## Rivers, Streams, and Wetland Restoration: A Multidisciplinary Approach

*John Muhlfeld, Hydrologist  
River Design Group, Inc.*



**R**iver Design Group, Inc., based in Whitefish, Montana, is a private consulting firm specializing in river, stream and wetland restoration projects in the Pacific Northwest and Intermountain West states. Through our focused business strategy, we are able to maintain the highest level of technical expertise and well-trained staff that works exclusively in the river environment. In addition to restoration work, our expertise extends to habitat enhancement, dam removal, and fish passage.

To effectively deal with the interdisciplinary nature of these projects, our staff includes hydraulic engineers, fluvial geomorphologists, hydrologists, biologists, surveyors, and geographic information specialists. We draw upon the collective knowledge of this team to provide our clients with sustainable and effective river projects. With offices in Whitefish, Montana and Corvallis, Oregon, we are able to service clients throughout the region. Projects completed by River Design Group within

*All photos courtesy of  
River Design Group, Inc., 2010*



**Haskill Creek:** John Muhlfeld, Hydrologist, and Matt Daniels, Engineer with River Design Group, Inc., stand along a restored section of Haskill Creek on the Voerman ranch near Whitefish

the Flathead Watershed include watershed assessments on the Stillwater River and upper Whitefish River drainage to support Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) development, multiple phases of restoration on the Jocko River in conjunction with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and other contractors, and implementation of large wood reintroduction projects to improve aquatic habitat complexity in the North Fork Flathead River drainage.

standing of river systems by consistently overseeing implementation of our designs, and monitoring our techniques' effectiveness over time.

Staff members demonstrate experience and competency within their individual disciplines. Equally important, as a team, we have established a track record of successful collaboration on multidisciplinary projects. River Design Group's project managers recognize the need to be responsive to client requests, and our employees understand that restoration projects require a careful balance of flexibility and leadership. Our primary service areas include:

- ✓ River, Stream and Wetland Restoration
- ✓ Watershed & Geomorphic Assessments
- ✓ Dam Removal
- ✓ Fish Passage and Screening
- ✓ Geographic Information Technology
- ✓ Surveying
- ✓ Construction Management

[www.riverdesigngroup.net](http://www.riverdesigngroup.net)



**Project Location Map:** River Design Group, Inc., collaborates on river, stream and wetland restoration projects throughout the Pacific Northwest and Intermountain West states

River Design Group's project approach integrates principles from river morphology, natural channel design, river engineering, riparian and floodplain ecology and adaptive management. Moreover, we are deeply committed to ensuring that our restoration projects are executed within the context of surrounding communities. We strive to refine our under-