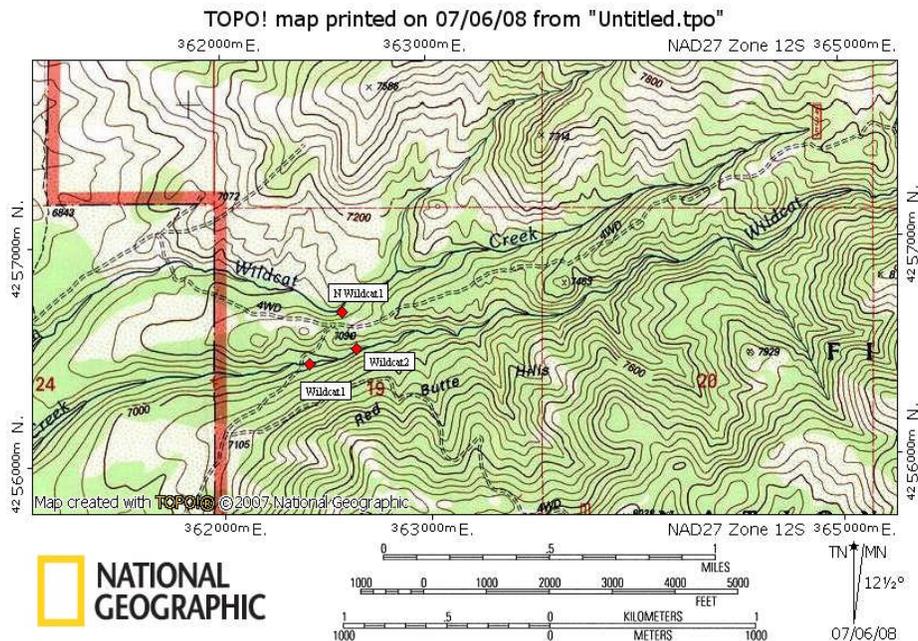


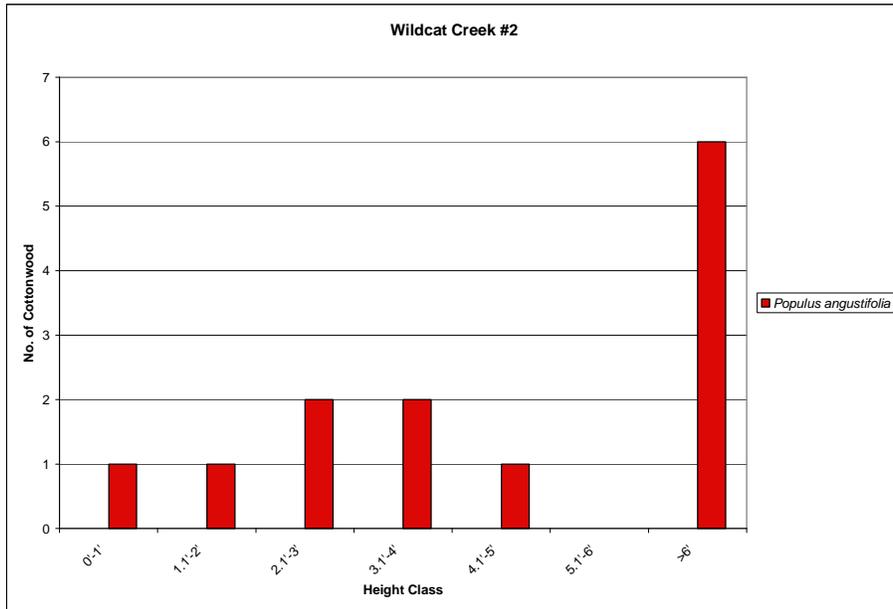
WILDCAT CREEK #2 Riparian Browse Assessment May 9, 2008

Wildcat Creek #2 is located in a confined narrowleaf cottonwood/Gambel's oak/bigleaf maple reach with steep (60 degree) slopes, about 0.15 miles upstream of Wildcat Creek #1. The transect crosses the stream twice (at 27', 35') as it bends. The average riparian width is 16'. Old, large downed cottonwood provide large woody debris for stream stability and diversity (Figs. 1 and 2), but these cottonwood are not being replaced by mature cottonwood. Six cottonwood trees >6' average 18" DBH, with no recruitment trees, while all other cottonwood trees are less than 5' tall. By May 9, 28.6% of the tallest leaders and 45.5% of the subleaders were browsed.



WILDCAT CREEK #1 (WC1)	May 9, 2008 Hoskisson/O'Brien
Fishlake NF/Beaver RD	Allotment: Pine Creek/Sulphurbeds Pasture: Wildcat
Stake: 12N 0362665 E 4256502 N NAD CONUS 27 Downstream, west end	Elevation: 7,047'
Aspect: S-facing and N-facing	Animal sign: Cougar track; cow patties near stream
Ave. Width Riparian Area: 16'	
Dominant vegetation: Narrowleaf cottonwood, Rocky Mtn juniper, bigtooth maple, Wood's	

rose, Oregon grape, and Oregon boxleaf *Paxistima myrsinites*. One limber pine tree.
Other notes: This transect is in Reach #A24-3 in the 2003 Level II Riparian Inventory (Petty 2003); Petty rated the forage trend as “down”. The draft Beaver R. Watershed Management Plan (Beaver County 1999) notes: “Flow from Indian Creek and Wildcat Creek average 6.5 cfs.”



Wildcat Creek #2			
7 <i>Populus angustifolia</i> <6'			
6 <i>P. angustifolia</i> >6'			
% tall leaders browsed	% tall leaders browsed or dead	% subleaders browsed	% subleaders browsed or dead
<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>
14.3	28.6	45.5	60.6

Ave. Cottonwood DBH >6' 18.4" (N= 6)



Fig. 1 Upstream end of transect; note cottonwood debris in Wildcat Creek



Fig. 2. Large, old, downed cottonwood capturing sediment and providing creek diversity.

References

Beaver County. 1999 [Brcrmp7 5/12/98, 7/20/99 gj]. Draft *Beaver River Watershed Coordinated Resource Management Plan*.

Petty, Jeff. 2003. Little North Creek Area Level II Riparian Inventory. Shell Valley Consulting: Shell, WY.