Subsequent talk of erosion yielded plans for a field trip later this month to examine worrisome areas.

One area of a North Fork river bank lost eight feet this year, said Jeff Legg, Shoshone County’s Planning and Zoning administrator. Land erodes “slowly and then all of a sudden wham, it’ll jump,” he said.

Prichard and Beaver Creeks present immediate erosion threats, Legg added.

As consequence, county roads are flooding where they never have before, pools of water occasionally lying in what Legg said are routes of escaping emergencies.

Shoshone County Commissioner Jon Cantamessa urged action.

“We know what problems are there and they’re getting worse, I believe, through inaction… Let’s not just talk because that’s what we do.”

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**WAG**

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Vegetation is one way of slowing erosion. Vegetation also creates shade and lowers temperature. Determining limits for metals and temperatures for the North Fork sub-basin is WAG’s primary purpose.

Erosion is related though. Soil receding into the water raises temperature and metal loads. They’re all biologically related, said Stromberg.

For private property owners, receiving permits for river work like dredging or filling can be problematic. Rancher and WAG member Delbert Kerr said it was “almost impossible for the private landowner.”

Kerr spoke of a log jam in the river and the subsequent confusion figuring out whose job it was to cut the logs.

“It almost winds up you don’t know where to go,” Kerr said.

Stromberg said she’d volunteer to help ease those problems.