Standard Checklist

Name of Riparian-Wetland Area: Cachagua Creek

Date: July 23, 2004 Segment/Reach ID: Reach 15 PFC 401

Miles: _____ Elevation: 876 GPS: N 36, 23. 787' W 121, 38. 974'

ID Team Observers: Danica Zupic, Ben Eichorn Time: _____

Yes	No	N/A	HYDROLOGY
X			1) Floodplain above bankfull is inundated in "relatively frequent" events
		X	2) Where beaver dams are present they are active and stable
X			3) Sinuosity, width/depth ratio, and gradient are in balance with the landscape setting (i.e., landform, geology, and bioclimatic region)
X			4) Riparian-wetland area is widening or has achieved potential extent
	X		5) Upland watershed is not contributing to riparian-wetland degradation

Yes	No	N/A	VEGETATION
X			6) There is diverse age-class distribution of riparian-wetland vegetation (recruitment for maintenance/recovery)
X			7) There is diverse composition of riparian-wetland vegetation (for maintenance/recovery)
X			8) Species present indicate maintenance of riparian-wetland soil moisture characteristics
X			9) Streambank Vegetation is comprised of those plants or plant communities that have root masses capable of withstanding high-streamflow events
X			10) Riparian-wetland plants exhibit high vigor
X			11) Adequate riparian-wetland vegetative cover is present to protect banks and dissipate energy during high flows
X			12) Plant communities are an adequate source of coarse and/or large woody material (for maintenance/recovery)

Yes	No	N/A	EROSION/DEPOSITION
X			13) Floodplain and channel characteristics (i.e., rocks, overflow channels, coarse and/or large woody material) are adequate to dissipate energy
X			14) Point bars are revegetating with riparian-wetland vegetation
X			15) Lateral stream movement is associated with natural sinuosity
X			16) System is vertically stable
	X		17) Stream is in balance with the water and sediment being supplied by the watershed (i.e., no excessive erosion or deposition)

Summary Determination

Functional Rating:

Proper Functioning Condition	☐
Functional—At Risk	☒
Nonfunctional	☐
Unknown	☐

Trend for Functional—At Risk:

Upward	☐
Downward	☒
Not Apparent	☐

Are factors contributing to unacceptable conditions outside the control of the manager?

Yes	☐
No	☒

If **yes, what are those factors?**

☐ Flow regulations	☐ Mining activities	☐ Upstream channel conditions
☐ Channelization	☐ Road encroachment	☐ Oil field water discharge
☐ Augmented flows	☐ Other (specify)_____	

Picture 1

Picture 2

Picture 3

Remarks

This reach begins at mile marker 6 on Cachagua Road.

The area is predominantly residential, there is minimal riparian wetland vegetative understory, abundant dried algae, several buttressed banks and lots of household garbage to be found (See Picture 1).

There is a summer dam filled in with sediment, with lots of bank erosion nearby (See Picture 2).

Along the roadside several banks are buttressed with boulders and lack vegetative cover, and there are several dirt pushes. There are several eroding banks and an excess of sediment in the creek bed (See Pictures 3 and 4).

At the county bridge at Nason Road, two flow gauges were observed. Both gauges are buried in sediment, one up to the two foot marker, the other up to the four foot mark (See Pictures 5 and 6).

Vegetation thickens toward the confluence with the Carmel River (See Picture 7).

This reach ends at the confluence with the Carmel River, GPS: N36, 24.127, W121, 39.573, elevation 853.

Checklist Comments

#4,6-12 The willows are healthy but the vegetation is sparse. There are large sycamores, but the understory is sparse and upland species are prominent.

#5,17 There is excessive sediment deposition in this reach.

#15 There is one brief stretch before the confluence with the Carmel River that is split into two equally sized channels, one of which is full of sediment

#16 There are several stabilized banks (three with sandbags, one with a gabion). Currently these banks appear stable, however the risk to lasting vertical stability should not be overlooked.

Picture 4

Picture 5

Picture 6

Picture 7