

Standard Checklist

Name of Riparian-Wetland Area: Finch Creek

Date: August 2, 2004 Segment/Reach ID: Reach 6 PFC 709

Miles: _____ Elevation: 1824 GPS: N 36, 21. 479' W 121, 32. 930'

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

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

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

Yes	No	N/A	EROSION/DEPOSITION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		13) Floodplain and channel characteristics (i.e., rocks, overflow channels, coarse and/or large woody material) are adequate to dissipate energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14) Point bars are revegetating with riparian-wetland vegetation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		15) Lateral stream movement is associated with natural sinuosity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		16) System is vertically stable
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Trend for Functional—At Risk:

Upward
Downward
Not Apparent

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Yes
No

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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 county bridge 543 on Carmel Valley Road.

This reach contained a diversity of mature riparian wetland species, including alders, sycamores, maples, willows, buckeyes and bay laurels. Although many parts of the reach lacked adequate ground cover, and recruits were not abundant, there are plenty of young and mature trees to stabilize the banks (See picture 1).

There are slides on the roadside bank both above and below the county road, however no excessive deposition is visible at this time (See pictures 2,3).

There are several overflow channels, and one tributary from the western bank.

County Bridge 542 has been sandbagged along the upstream, western side of the foundation and appears to be functioning properly.

There is a very healthy riparian wetland tree canopy throughout this reach whose absorption of light could hinder the ability of small plants to establish themselves.

This reach ends at the property line of Hastings Natural History Preserve, GPS: N36, 21.479, W121, 32.924.

Checklist Comments

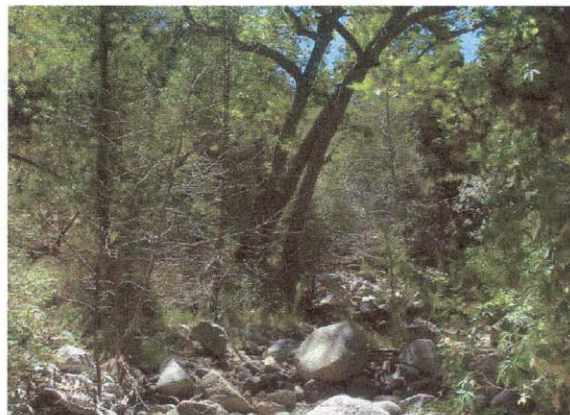
#1 Floodplain is visible only in only one half of this reach.

#4,6,9,11,14 In this reach there are many steep slopes with minimal ground cover, recruits are present but few.

#5,17 There is some roadside erosion and some very steep slopes, however large riparian wetland trees prevail even in these areas.

#8,10 There are a number of dead alders of varying ages in this reach (See picture 4).

#16 There are a few slides and instances of undercutting in this reach.



Picture 4