

Complete both pages for each bank (left or right) for each stream reach (evaluation area). Characterize the entire reach. Use a separate page for the other bank. Please refer to handbook for explanations and clarifications of questions.

**Section 1: Background Information**

1. Date of this assessment: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name of person(s) doing assessment: \_\_\_\_\_
3. GPS Unit Number used for taking these waypoints? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Reach location description: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Length of reach: \_\_\_\_\_ ft
6. Upstream GPS Waypoint #: \_\_\_\_\_ Downstream GPS Waypoint #: \_\_\_\_\_
7. As you complete the data sheets, take GPS points and photographs of any interesting or unusual features. Use the space below to identify the feature.

<u>GPS Point</u>	<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Feature Description</u>
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____

8. Comments/ observations about reach: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Please take a photo or make a sketch of the reach (while facing downstream)

**Section 2: Stream Characteristics (not all questions are given points)**

1. Average Stream width (at bankfull): \_\_\_\_\_ ft
2. Average Bank Height (circle one only for the bank you are describing):  
 a) 0-2 ft      b) >2-5 ft      c) >5-8 ft      d) >8 ft
3. Bank slope (circle one):  
 a) Undercut or greater than 90°      b) Vertical /90°  
 c) Greater than or equal to 45°      d) Less than 45°
4. Predominant bank cover (circle one only for the bank you are describing):  
 a) Greater than 90% vegetated (add 25 pts)      b) 70-89% vegetated (add 15 pts)      4. + \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) 50-69% vegetated (add 10 pts)      d) 0-49% vegetated (add 0 pts)
5. Is there rock rip-rap, concrete, metal, or other stabilizing structures on the bank?      5. + \_\_\_\_\_  
 a) No (add 15 pts)      b) Less than 20% (add 5 pts)      c) Greater than 20% (add 0 pts)
6. Is there evidence of erosion? (Circle one)      a) No bank erosion (add 15 pts)      6. + \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) Minor undercutting (add 10 pts)      c) Manmade or livestock disturbance (add 5 pts)  
 d) Major undercutting (add 2 pts)      e) Bank collapse/slumping (add 0 pts)
7. Is there new deposition of sediments/sand bars? (Circle one) Yes      No
8. Are trees hanging over the stream? (Keeps the water cooler). (Circle one)      8. + \_\_\_\_\_  
 a) 11 or more (add 20 pts)      b) 1-10 trees (add 15 pts)      c) None (add 0 pts)
9. Are trees or large branches in the stream? (These create variety in the stream habitat.)      9. + \_\_\_\_\_  
 a) 4-6 (add 15 pts)      b) 1-3 (add 5 pts)  
 c) 7 or more (add 0 pts)      d) None or if some are acting as debris plugs (add 0 pts)
10. Are there any ditches, tributaries, pipes, or swales entering the stream? (circle all that apply)
11. Overall bank stability: Rank on scale of 1(least stable) to 10 (most stable)      11. + \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL POINTS for STREAM CHARACTERISTICS ...../100**

**Section 3: Zone 1 - the area 0-15 ft from the stream**

- 1. What is the most common land cover in Zone 1? (Circle one) 1. + \_\_\_\_\_
a)Trees (add 20 pts) b) Shrubs (add 15 pts) c) Wild open meadow (add 5 pts)
d) Thick grass/ hayland (add 3 pts) e) Ag. Crops or pasture (add 2 pts) f) Gravel (1 pt)
g) Exposed soil (add 0 pts) h) impervious surface (add 0 pts) i) lawn (add 0 pts) j) other \_\_\_\_\_
2. Are trees present in Zone 1? 2. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) Densely vegetated with trees (add 10 pts) b) Moderately vegetated (add 5 pts)
c) Sparsely vegetated (add 3 pts) d) No trees (add 0 pts)
3. If you answered choice (a) or (b) to question 2, how high is the average height of the trees? 3. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) The buffer tree height is as tall as the stream is wide (add 5 pts) OR
b) The buffer tree height is 1/2 the stream width (add 3 pts)
4. Is the buffer located on the east or south side of the stream and:
a) Densely vegetated w/ trees (add 5 pts) b) Moderately vegetated w/trees (add 3 pts)
c) Sparsely vegetated w/ trees (add 1 pt) 4. + \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are shrubs present in Zone 1? 5. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) Densely vegetated with shrubs (add 10 pts) b) moderately vegetated (add 5 pts)
c) Sparsely vegetated (add 3 pts) d) No shrubs (add 0 pts)
6. Do grass and small plants (not including lawn) cover the ground in Zone 1? 6. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) Full cover (98% or better) (add 5 pts) b) Partial cover (50-97%) (add 2 pts)
c) Spotty cover (add 1 pt) d) No grass (add 0 pts)
7. Is there evidence of stream bank tree throw? (falling trees due to undercutting) 7. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) No or 1 tree throw (add 5 pts) b) more than 1 (add 0 pts)
8. Is there impervious surface in Zone 1? 8. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) No (add 20 pts) b) 1-10% (add 7 pts) c) 11-25% (add 5 pts)
d) 26-50% (add 2 pts) e) 51-75% (add 1 pt) f) 76-100% (add 0 pts)
9. Are there signs of a recent timber harvest in Zone 1? 9. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) No (add 10 pts) b) Selective harvest leaving > 20% (add 5 pts)
c) High grading (add 2 pts) d) Clear cut (add 0 pts)
10. Is there active land conversion away from forested buffer? No (add 10 pts) Yes (add 0 pts) 10. + \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL OF ZONE 1..... / 100

**Section 4: Zone 2 - the area 15-100 ft from the stream**

- 1. What is the most common land cover in Zone 2? (Circle one) 1. + \_\_\_\_\_
a)Trees (add 20 pts) b) Shrubs (add 15 pts) c) Wild open meadow (add 5 pts)
d) Thick grass/ hayland (add 3 pts) e) Ag. Crops or pasture (add 2 pts) f) Gravel (1 pt)
g) Exposed soil (add 0 pts) h) impervious surface (add 0 pts) i) lawn (add 0 pts) j) other \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the second most common land cover in Zone 2? 2. + \_\_\_\_\_
(Must be greater than 10% of land cover to qualify. If no secondary cover, add 0 points)
a)Trees (add 10 pts) b) Shrubs (add 7 pts) c) Wild open meadow (add 5 pts)
d) Thick grass/ hayland (add 3 pts) e) Ag. Crops or pasture (add 2 pts) f) Gravel (add 1pt)
g)Exposed soil (add 0 pt) g) impervious surface (add 0 pts) h) lawn (add 0 pts) i) other \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the predominate slope of Zone 2? 3. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) Mostly flat (add 5 pts) b) Medium grade (add 3 pts) c) Very steep (add 0 pts)
4. Is there impervious surface in Zone 2? 4. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) 0-3% (add 10 pts) b) 4-10% (add 7 pts) c) 11-25% (add 5 pts)
d) 26-50% (add 2 pts) e) 51-75% (add 1 pt) f) 76-100% (add 0 pts)
5. Are there signs of a recent timber harvest in Zone 2? 5. + \_\_\_\_\_
a) No (add 5 pts) b) Selective harvest leaving > 20% (add 3 pts)
c) High grading (add 1 pt) d) Clear cut (add 0 pts)
6. Is there active land conversion away from forested buffer? No (add 5 pts) Yes (add 0 pts) 6. + \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL OF ZONE 2..... /50

**Section 5: Additional Points**

- 1. Are there restoration efforts in place in either zone? Yes (add 10 pts) No (add 0 pts) 1. + \_\_\_\_\_
2. Is total of zone 1 is equal to or greater than 85 and the total zone 2 is equal or greater than 42 2. + \_\_\_\_\_
and the buffer is continuous over 2 or more stream segment lengths (12 times the stream bed width)
up stream? Yes (add 10 pts) No (add 0 pts)

TOTAL (not including stream characteristics).....