

# Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program 2004/2005 Baseline Report



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## Skagit County Public Works Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program

Baseline Report for 2004/2005

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## **Executive Summary**

In 2004, Skagit County Public Works personnel initiated a Salmon Habitat Monitoring project. This effort is in response to Skagit County Resolutions #R20030210 and #R20040211, which specify actions the County will take to assess if Skagit County Code 14.24.120, Ongoing Agriculture, is adequately protecting critical areas on agricultural lands. The four objectives of the project are 1) to establish baseline conditions, 2) conduct additional monitoring to determine trends over time, 3) determine if habitat conditions are improving, degrading or remaining the same in Ag-Natural Resource Lands (NRL) and RRc-NRL zoned lands, and 4) provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. After discussions with State and Federal resource agencies, the County determined that the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) developed by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would be the best method to document baseline conditions and track trends in habitat conditions. The study design called for a minimum of 60 stream reaches, randomly selected, for inclusion in the initial baseline sampling regime. In 2005-2008, 20 selected reaches established in 2004, will be resurveyed to provide information to be used for trend analyses. In 2009 a minimum of another randomly selected 60 reaches will be surveyed and the five-year data collection cycle will begin again.

Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Survey stems directly from the Environmental Protection Agency's *Surface Waters Western Pilot Study: Field Operations Manual for Wadeable Streams – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program* from which we used all of the physical habitat protocols. Additional protocols and parameters, including stream bank stability assessment, stream typing and photography documentation were added to our assessment.

Skagit County personnel completed the first year of sampling under the Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program late in October 2004 but were not able to sample our goal of 60 sites. Between the 2004 and 2005 sampling seasons, after several conversations with EPA staff, County personnel decided to combine both sampling seasons into one baseline report. In 2005, 28 sites were sampled which should have given us 60 total sites to establish baseline conditions, with the 8 annual sites being revisited. One baseline site was converted to an annual site which did not get replaced with an additional baseline site. Consequently, a total of 59 total sites were surveyed.

The Physical Habitat Indicators section summarizes the result of our 2004/2005 samplings. Most of the results from the habitat indicators sampled are averaged and listed as either Ag or Non-Ag. The physical habitat indicators we sampled include temperature, channel form, substrate, sinuosity, canopy cover, riparian vegetation, large woody debris, bank stability, riparian disturbance and fish cover.

In section IV of the report we talk about some of the differences we observed within and between Ag sites and Non-Ag sites. Non-Ag sites typically had higher stream gradient, larger bankfull width, coarser substrate and greater sinuosity than Ag sites. Bank stability and fish cover were observed to be about the same on both Ag and Non-Ag sites. Large woody debris counts were greater for all size classes on Non-Ag sites. In addition, the Ag sites were observed to lack larger LWD (greater than the Small class).

This data will serve as our baseline and will be used for comparison and analysis after the 2009 60-site sampling season. At that time we will be able to conduct some limited trend analysis to identify changing conditions on both Ag and Non-Ag sites and how they relate to each other.

## I. INTRODUCTION

## A. Purpose

The purpose of the Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program is to establish a baseline of current general physical salmonid habitat conditions in Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) 3 & 4, determine whether habitat conditions are stable, improving or degrading over time and provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat conditions in Agriculture-NRL & Rural Resource-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. This effort is in response to Skagit County Resolution #R20030210 which specifies actions the County will take to ensure that Skagit County Code 14.24.120, Ongoing Agriculture, is adequately protecting critical areas on agricultural lands.

## **B.** Objectives

The specific objectives of this effort are:

- 1. Establish a statistically valid baseline of the current general physical habitat conditions in WRIAs 3 & 4 during the first year of the project.
- 2. Conduct additional habitat conditions monitoring in future years to be used to analyze trends in salmon habitat conditions over time.
- 3. Determine whether habitat conditions are improving, degrading, or remaining static in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands.
- 4. Provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat conditions in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction, as defined by the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan.

## C. Background

Skagit County initiated development of the Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program in response to comments from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) in regard to a preliminary draft of a Skagit County Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) regulating critical areas on Agriculture-NRL and Rural Resource-NRL zoned lands. WDFW raised concerns that the "Do no harm" provision of the ordinance only addressed water quality issues and ignored potential changes to salmonid habitat that could result from agricultural practices. To address these concerns, WDFW suggested adding a salmon habitat monitoring program as a component of the ordinance.

To inventory all streams under the County's Ag- CAO would have been cost prohibitive, consequently a plan to sub-sample watercourses throughout the County was deemed necessary. A representative of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) suggested that the County investigate use of Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) as a means to conduct the salmon habitat survey. Skagit County staff, in turn, met with representatives from the GSRO and Washington State Department of Ecology (ECY) and determined that using EMAP methodologies could be a viable option for the County to conduct a habitat monitoring survey. During the summer of 2003 County staff attended three separate field training sessions

with EMAP ECY crews. The ECY crews provided EMAP training for County staff and answered questions related to implementation, required equipment, and field procedures. The Lake Creek field training session was also attended by Bruce Crawford of WDFW who is the lead staff member for the development of a statewide comprehensive salmon habitat monitoring program. Mr. Crawford spoke highly of the EMAP program and recommended it for Skagit County's purposes. Upon completing the field training sessions, County staff determined that EMAP physical habitat field procedures were viable and feasible under the constraints faced by the County.

County staff held numerous subsequent conversations with the ECY regarding how to implement EMAP in Skagit County. Topics of conversation included, but were not limited to, obtaining additional information on EMAP protocols, review of ECY's EMAP programs and elements to be included in Skagit County's EMAP program. ECY staff also provided contact information for Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff in Corvallis, Oregon who were integral in the development of EMAP.

Using the information collected in the field visits, coupled with the subsequent conversations with the ECY and EPA, County staff developed a preliminary draft salmon habitat monitoring plan. The draft plan was distributed for comment to interested parties and the general public, and comments on the proposed plan were received. County staff worked with the ECY and EPA to address these comments and modified the plan to address said comments to the greatest degree practicable. The changes to the plan are detailed in section II of this report.

## **D.** Proposed Study Design

Skagit County staff used EMAP physical habitat survey protocols to conduct a salmon habitat survey for portions of Skagit County. Reaches were randomly selected using EMAP site selection protocols. A general overview of EMAP is provided below.

The study design called for a minimum of 60 stream reaches, randomly selected, for inclusion in the 2004 sampling regime. In 2005-2008, 20 selected reaches, established in 2004, will be resurveyed to provide information to be used for trend analyses. In 2009 a minimum of another randomly selected 60 reaches will be surveyed and the five-year data collection cycle will begin again. See Table 1 - Sampling Regime By Zoning Class and Year below.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
AG/RR- Nrl	30	10	10	10	10	30	10	10	10	10
Other Lands	30	10	10	10	10	30	10	10	10	10
Total # of sites	60	20	20	20	20	60	20	20	20	20

Table 1. Sampling regime by zoning class and year.

All sampling was conducted only on streams that are, or have the potential to be, salmonidbearing and are wadeable. Sites selected were equally divided between those in Agriculture-Natural Resource Land (Ag-NRL) or Rural Resource-Natural Resource Land (RRc-NRL) zoned lands (as defined by the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan) and other lands within County jurisdiction. After initial reconnaissance of selected sites, only those deemed to be safely accessible, and with landowner permission for access, became part of the sample. For simplicity sake, sites will be referred to as Ag or Non-Ag throughout the rest of the report.

Further details regarding the *Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program* and sampling site selection process can be found in Appendix A.



Figure 1. Recording thalweg information on Samish River.

## E. EMAP Overview

The Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) is a research program developing the tools necessary to monitor and assess the status and trends of national ecological resources. EMAP's goal is to develop the methodologies for translating environmental monitoring data from multiple spatial and temporal scales into assessments of current ecological condition and forecasts of future risks to our natural resources (EPA website: http://www.epa.gov/emap/).

EMAP aims to advance the science of ecological monitoring and ecological risk assessment, guide national monitoring with improved scientific understanding of ecosystem integrity and dynamics, and demonstrate multi-agency monitoring through large regional projects. EMAP identifies and utilizes appropriate indicators to monitor the condition of ecological resources (EPA website: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/emap/">http://www.epa.gov/emap/</a>).

The objectives of Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program are somewhat different from a standard EMAP sampling regime. The County's program is designed to track, not only overall status and trends in the Skagit Watershed, but also to track trends both in and between Ag/RR zoned lands and other Non-Ag lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. This is different than most EMAP programs that tend to look only at overall status and trends on a larger scale (i.e. state-wide or national).

## F. Public Outreach

The success of Skagit County's Salmon Habitat survey was predicated on obtaining Rights-of-Entry (ROE) to the public and private properties where the randomized stream segments to be surveyed were located. An intensive public outreach strategy was implemented to obtain ROE permission in order to gain access to the sample sites. Skagit County staff attended local conservation district and agricultural organization meetings to inform them of the County's efforts and to solicit their assistance. In the process of explaining the program it was emphasized that the success of the program depended upon landowners allowing County personnel to access the randomly selected parcels.

Public outreach to gain support for the project, especially from Ag landowners and Ag interest groups, began with a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners in March 2004. Subsequently, pertinent news releases were issued, staff met with local Ag groups and the Salmon Habitat Monitoring Plan was posted on the County's website. Under contract with the County, the Skagit Conservation District developed and conducted Ag-CAO educational activities targeting the local Ag community including information about the habitat monitoring program.

## Some Useful Habitat Definitions:

**Bankfull width** - The stream width measured at the average flood water mark.

<u>**Canopy</u>** - A layer of foliage in a forest stand. This most often refers to the uppermost layer of foliage, but it can be used to describe lower layers in a multistoried stand.</u>

<u>**Channel</u>** - An area that contains continuously or periodically flowing water that is confined by banks and a stream bed.</u>

**Large Woody Debris** - Pieces of wood larger than 5 feet long (1.5m) and 4 inches (10.1cm) in diameter, in a stream channel.

**<u>Riparian area</u>** - An area of land and vegetation adjacent to a stream that has a direct effect on the stream. This includes woodlands, vegetation, and floodplains.

<u>Sinuosity</u> - The amount of bending, winding and curving in a stream or river.

<u>Stream gradient</u> - A general slope or rate of change in vertical elevation per unit of horizontal distance of the water surface of a flowing stream.

<u>Substrate</u> - The composition of the grain size of the sediments in the stream or river bottom, ranging from rocks to mud.

**Thalweg** - The deepest part of the stream.

## G. Staffing

All surveys during the two-year period were conducted exclusively by Skagit County staff or technical interns. The entire habitat survey crew consisted of three full-time staff members and two college interns hired specifically for this project. Individual survey crews ranged in size from 2 to 5 staff depending on the size of the stream to be surveyed. Each staff member was trained in all aspects of the habitat monitoring so that all crew-members could be used interchangeably as needed on any sampling day (see Appendix B).



Figure 2. Recording thalweg information on Jones Creek.

## **II. METHODS**

This section of the report describes the procedures used to select sample sites, perform field sampling and analyze field results.

## A. Sample Site Selection

Sample sites for Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program were selected using EMAP site selection protocols and procedures to select a representative set of sampling locations (stream reaches) where habitat conditions were to be surveyed. Skagit County Geographic Information Services (SCGIS) staff worked with the EPA office in Corvallis, Oregon to identify and transfer the data necessary to develop Skagit County's randomized sample set. As a result of these efforts, sample sites have been identified for the first 20 years of the study.

A Generalized Random Tessellation Stratified (GRTS) survey design for a linear stream resource was used to select the stream segments that were sampled. The GRTS design included reverse hierarchical ordering of the selected sites. The total stream length in the sampling frame in the Skagit County study is 781.5 km with 243.2 km in the Ag/RR zoning designations and 538.2 km outside those zoning designations (Non-Ag).

All wadeable streams within Skagit County were included in the sample set. Larger nonwadeable rivers, including the Skagit, Cascade, Sauk, Suiattle and lower Nookachamps were excluded. Working from this baseline condition, these additional criteria were also included to narrow down the sample set:

- Only streams in WRIAs 3 & 4 were included in the study. Those portions of WRIAs 1 & 5 that fall within Skagit County's political jurisdiction were specifically excluded, except for the Colony Creek Watershed, which is located in WRIA 1.
- Stream segments outside of direct County jurisdiction were excluded from the sample set (e.g. stream segments in municipalities, federal forest, or national park lands).
- Sampling was limited to streams that are, or have the potential to be, salmonid-bearing. Salmonid-bearing status is based on the *Washington State Conservation Commission* – *Salmon and Steelhead Limiting Factors Water Resource Inventory Areas 3 & 4 Skagit Watershed* (June 2003). The specific species used to make this determination were Chinook, coho, chum, and pink salmon, cutthroat trout, steelhead, and native char (e.g. Bull Trout, Dolly Varden).

Selected sample sites were stratified equally between lands in *Agriculture – Natural Resource Lands* and *Rural Resource – Natural Resource Lands* (AG/RR) zoning designations and areas outside of those zoning designations (Non-Ag). In total, sixty sites were to be sampled in 2004 to establish baseline conditions; thirty in Ag and thirty in Non-Ag. However, because only 40 sites were completed in the 2004 sampling season, it was determined that the goal for 2005 would be 28 sites rather than 20 annual sites. This was done in order to combine the two years effort and establish the baseline conditions. Skagit County's ability to sample individual sites was further predicated on two additional factors; landowner willingness and safety. Sampling was only conducted on sites where landowners gave prior permission to enter the site. In

addition, if a site was deemed to be unsafe to sample due to such factors as higher than anticipated stream flows or lack of access to the sampling site due to steep slopes, the site was not sampled regardless of permissions received. For each sample site, every effort was made to obtain landowner permission and/or determine a means by which the sample site could be safely reached.

## **B.** Sample Season

Preliminary field training for this project began in May 2004. County crews were trained on standard EMAP methodologies and the modified methodologies recommended by the ECY and EPA. Actual field work for the baseline report began in June 2004 and in order to achieve the goal of 60 sites, the baseline survey continued through the summer of 2005. The original end date of the 2004 baseline year was scheduled for October 1, 2004; however, as the anticipated 60 sites had not been reached, the sample season was extended through the end of October 2004. The final survey for the 2004 season was conducted on October 26. In 2004 sampling did not occur beyond this date as no sites remained that were safe to sample for which an ROE had been obtained. The 2005 sampling season began on June 8<sup>th</sup> and ended on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **C. Monitoring Protocols**

Aside from the exceptions listed below under the headings *Modified Methods, Additional Parameters, and Additional Protocols*, the methods, parameters, and protocols to be used for Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Survey stem directly from the Environmental Protection Agency's *Surface Waters Western Pilot Study: Field Operations Manual for Wadeable Streams* – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program

(<u>http://www.epa.gov/emap/html/pubs/docs/groupdocs/surfwatr/field/ewwsm01.html</u>). For a list of equipment used, see Appendix C. The forms used include standard EMAP datasheets (see Appendix D).

## **D.** Modified Methods

This section details the modifications Skagit County made to the protocols contained in the Environmental Protection Agency's *Surface Waters Western Pilot Study: Field Operations Manual for Wadeable Streams – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program* (Field Ops Manual).

#### i. Slope

Stream slope was calculated by hydrostatic leveling using two metric stadia rods and a length of 10-mm (3/8 inch) inside diameter clear tubing. Tubing was filled with water and extended along the streambed. When the water within the tubing stabilized, the change in height was determined by the difference in water column height between the upstream and downstream end.

#### ii. Substrate Measurement

Sixteen substrate classes, (the Field Ops Manual calls for eleven), were used to help reduce variance associated with substrate measurements. These classes ranged from fine silt to car sized boulders. See Appendix A for a more detailed description of substrate sizes.

#### iii. Bankfull Width

Bankfull measurements were conducted in accordance with the protocols contained in *A Guide for Field Identification of Bankfull Stage in the Western United States* - USDA, Forest Service, Stream Systems Technology Center Rocky Mountain Research Station (http://www.stream.fs.fed.us/).

#### iv. Large Woody Debris Tallies

In addition to the procedure detailed in the Field Ops Manual for tallying large woody debris (LWD), the presence of large woody debris jams were documented in the comments portion of the *Thalweg Profile and Woody Debris* field form. Included in the comments was a visual estimate of the metric volume of any large woody debris jam (EPA 2001).

#### **E.** Additional Parameters

This section details the additional variables that Skagit County surveyed beyond those contained in the Environmental Protection Agency's Field Ops Manual (2001).

#### i. Stream Bank Stability

A stream bank stability protocol derived from a combination of the EPA volunteer stream monitoring methods (EPA 1997) and the EPA protocol by Bauer and Burton (1993) was used to assess bank stability. Stream banks (both left and right) along each transect were examined and assigned linear percentages to quantify bank shape, class, and coverage. Three types of bank shapes were considered: undercut (>90° angle), steep (>30° angle), and gradual (<30° angle). Two parameters were assessed to create a combination of four types of bank class conditions: covered stable, covered unstable, uncovered stable, and uncovered unstable. Finally, the composition of riparian vegetation at the edge of the active channel was recorded to evaluate what is functioning to stabilize the immediate bank.

#### ii. Rosgen Stream Type

As indicated in the Quality Assurance Project Plan, (Appendix A), all 60 sites will be typed according to Rosgen (1996) stream classification.

## **F.** Additional Protocols

#### i. Photography Protocol

A series of digital photographs were taken at each survey site to assist in documenting habitat conditions at individual sites. These photographs are stored by site on Skagit County's computer network server.

#### ii. Remote Sensing Protocol

At five year intervals, in conjunction with the 60-site sampling regimes, Landsat ETM satellite derived land cover images will be used to estimate percentages of land use and land cover (impervious surface, vegetation, and other cover types), for the watersheds upstream of sample sites. Land use and land cover percentages will be compared with data collected during the sampling regimes to help associate channel habitat changes with landscape level changes. This information will also be used to address influences to habitat originating outside of the sample reaches.

#### iii. Annual Sampling Site Protocol

Each site was monumented, using a combination of GPS coordinates and landmarks, (e.g. a particular tree), to ensure the same reach is surveyed annually. The length of stream to be surveyed for the annual sites was calculated in the first year based on 30 times the bankfull width as opposed to 40 times the wetted width to provide for consistency between sampling years. For future sampling years, stream lengths to be sampled will be standardized (stream reach length will remain constant from year to year).

## G. Physical Habitat Indicators

Physical habitat in streams includes all physical attributes that influence or provide sustenance to organisms within the stream, (Kaufmann in Peck et al., 2003).

Physical habitat varies naturally, as do biological and chemical characteristics, thus expectations of habitat condition differ even in the absence of anthropogenic caused disturbance. Degradation of aquatic habitats by nonpoint source activities is recognized as one of the major causes for the decline of anadromous and resident fish stocks in the Pacific Northwest, (Williams et al., 1989). Measurements of physical habitat parameters fall into one of the following three types of sampling method protocols:

1. Continuous measurements are collected along the entire length of the sample reach. Thalweg profile (a survey of depth along the stream channel), and presence/absence of soft sediments (fine gravel or smaller), were collected at either 100 or 150 equally spaced points along the stream reach. An observation of the geomorphic channel type, (e.g. riffle, glide, pool), was made at each point. Crews also tallied large woody debris along the reach.

2. Transect measurements are collected from 11 evenly spaced transects. Measures/

observations of bankfull width, wetted width, depth, substrate size, shade, and fish cover were taken at each transect. Measures and/or visual estimates of riparian vegetation structure, anthropogenic disturbance, and stream bank angle, incision and undercut are also collected at each transect. Gradient measurements and compass bearing between each of the 11 stations are collected to calculate reach gradient and channel sinuosity.

3. Reach measurements apply to the reach as a whole. Channel morphology class for the entire reach is determined, (Montgomery and Buffington, 1993), and instantaneous discharge is measured at one optimally chosen cross-section.

## H. Analysis

Data collected for Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program was input into an MSAccess database developed by Tetra Tech, Inc of Bothell, WA. Habitat metrics were developed in accordance with the protocols and procedures detailed in *Quantifying Physical Habitat in Wadeable Streams*, (Kaufmann et. al). Summaries of the 2004/2005 baseline sampling year's results are found in the Results and Discussion sections of this report.

## **III. RESULTS**

## A. Study Sites and Zoning

Skagit County personnel completed the first year of sampling under the Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program late in October, 2004. At that time we had not reached our goal to sample 60 sites due to a number of factors: lack of response to Right of Entry (ROE) requests, access denial, and sites that were unsampleable (see Figure 3). It was determined after the 2004 sampling season, and after consulting with scientists from EPA, that the effort to achieve the goal of 60 sampled sites to establish baseline conditions would be continued into the 2005 sampling season. Therefore, a total of 28 sites were required to be completed in 2005 rather than the planned 20 annual sites in order to get a 2004-2005 baseline of 60 sites sampled.



**Figure 3.** Summary of Survey Sites for the 2004 sampling effort. Unsampleable sites were those that we were unable to survey due to natural conditions (i.e. too deep, above bankfull height, etc).

In 2004 County personnel were able to complete a survey of 40 total sites, 8 of which are under the annual designation (3 Ag and 5 Non-Ag). Federal and State lands accounted for 9 of the 40 sampled sites and were sampled without specific ROEs. Crown Pacific, a timber holding corporation, allowed unrestricted access to all their lands representing 7 of the sites. Twentyeight sites were sampled during the 2005 sampling season of which 19 were new sites and 9 were repeat or annual sites. (See Appendix E for a map of site locations and Appendices F and G for more detailed site information).

#### i. 2004/2005 Sample Sites Zoning and Land Use

During the 2004/2005 sampling period, Skagit County staff surveyed 29 sites under the Ag-NRL or RR-NRL zoning designation and 30 sites on lands under other zoning. Of those sites under the Ag zoning, 22 were on lands zoned as Ag-NRL and 7 were zoned as RR-NRL. Of these 29 Ag sites, only 17 sites exhibited characteristics of on-going agriculture. Pasture was determined to be the adjacent land use on 5 of the 30 Non-Ag sites. See the Discussion section for further information and explanations of the survey efforts.

## **B.** Physical Habitat Indicators

#### i. Temperature

Water temperature is an important variable for stream organisms and biota including salmonid species. Water temperature measurements for the 2004/2005 sampling seasons ranged from  $8.5^{\circ}$ C to $18^{\circ}$ C on Agriculture zoned lands (mean=  $13.4^{\circ}$ C) and  $8.5^{\circ}$ C to  $18^{\circ}$ C on Non-Ag lands (mean=  $13.4^{\circ}$ C). The extent of the seasonal sampling period (June 8<sup>th</sup>- October 26<sup>th</sup>) most likely influences this data. Although the average temperature for both Ag and Non-Ag are remarkably close, this data represents a one time measurement on the day of the survey and no conclusions can be or should be drawn from this limited data set. Skagit County conducts more intensive temperature monitoring as part of its water quality monitoring program (Haley 2005).

#### ii. Channel Form

Our sample sites exhibited a large range of stream gradients on both Ag zoned sites and sites under other zoning (Ag- 0.02%-4.13%; Non-Ag- 0.11%- 18.74%). Sites on Non-Ag streams had larger mean stream gradient (3.58%) than on Ag sites (0.78%).



Figure 4. Mean calculations for channel form characteristics.

The mean wetted width and bankfull width were both larger on Non-Ag sites, but not appreciably so. Mean bankfull height and mean incised height were nearly the same for both Ag and Non-Ag sites (see Figure 4). Mean thalweg depths were higher on Ag zoned sites (36.5cm) than on Non-Ag sites (25.3cm).

#### iii. Substrate

Substrate size and embeddedness are evaluated at each of the 11 transects. Substrate is also sampled at the midpoint of each transect for a total of 21 cross sections. At each transect, substrate is sampled at five locations across the channel. Substrate size is broken down into 16 different particle sizes (see Table 2).

Substrate is an important component of physical stream habitat structure; it provides habitat for macroinvertebrates, spawning salmonid species as well as cover and protection for juvenile fish. Substrate composition varies greatly, but generally, substrate is coarser in the upper reaches of a stream and finer in the lower reaches. However, an excess of fine sediment can decrease the quantity and quality of this habitat by filling in the spaces between larger particles (i.e. gravels-cobbles). See Table 2 for a description of substrate particle sizes.

Description of Particle Size		Mm	Skagit County Size Class
BEDROCK	SMOOTH	>4096	BEDROCK SMOOTH (RS)
	Rough	>4096	Bedrock Rough (RR)
Hardpan		>4096	Hardpan (HP)
Devilden	Large	1024-4096	Large Boulder (LB)
Boulder	Small	256-1024	Small Boulder (SB)
Cobble	Large	128 – 256	Large Cobble (CL)
Cobble	Small	64 – 128	Small Cobble (CS)
Gravel	Very Coarse	32 - 64	Very Course Gravel (GV)
	Coarse	16 - 32	Course Gravel (GC)
Glaver	Medium	8 – 16	Medium Gravel (GM)
	Fine	2 - 8	Fine Gravel (GF)
Sand	Course	0.500 0 - 2	Course Sand (SC)
Juin	Fine	0.063 - 0.500	Fine Sand (SF)
Silt/Clay		0.00024 - 0.063	Fines (FN)
Wood		Regardless of Size	Wood (WD)
Other		Regardless of Size	Other (OT)

 Table 2. Substrate Particle size description

We found that gravel was the prominent substrate type for Non-Ag sites; however, other size classes were also common. Sites on Ag had an appreciably larger amount of fines than those on Non-Ag sites. Fine sediment accounted for 36.8% of the sediment samples from the Ag sites (Figure 5). Fine sediment is generally defined as silt, clay or muck that is not gritty. The highest percentage of sediment (28.4%) observed in Non-Ag samples is large coarse gravel (16-64mm).



**Figure 5.** Substrate percentage by size class for Ag/RR-NRL zoned sites and Non-Ag/RR-NRL zoned sites. Classifications are explained in Table 2.

#### iv. Sinuosity

Sinuosity is described as the degree of winding and turning of the stream channel as observed from above (See Figure 6). A high degree of sinuosity provides for diverse habitat and fauna, and the stream is better able to handle surges when the stream fluctuates as a result of storms or flooding. The absorption of this energy helps protect invertebrates and fish during storm events and also helps prevent excess erosion during these events (<u>EPA</u>, 2006). Sinuosity values were calculated according to Kauffman, et al., 1999. Using back-sighting compass readings with reach and transect length, we were able to calculate sinuosity values for both Ag and Non-Ag sites.

Sinuosity Values	
1.0	No Sinuosity
<1.2	Low
>1.2	Moderate
>1.4	High
>1.5	Very High

 Table 3. Sinuosity Values (adopted from Bain et al. 1999).

Non-Ag/RR-NRL sites had a higher average sinuosity value (mean 1.22) than Ag/RR-NRL (mean 1.13) sites.



**Figure 6.** Visual example of streams exhibiting low (<1.2) and moderate (>1.2) sinuosity values.

#### v. Canopy Cover

Densiometer measurements were taken at 3 locations at each transect of a site reach (see Figure 7). While positioned in the center of the stream, four measurements were taken (upstream, downstream, left bank, right bank). At the right bank and left bank locations, only one measurement was taken. Thus, when we analyzed this data, we divided the analysis between center densiometer measurement and bank densiometer measurements. Analysis of this data was done in accordance with EPA guidelines (Kauffman et al, 1999).





For both zoning classes, densiometer measurements ranged from 0-17. The mean densiometer measurements from Ag and Non-Ag were converted into percent shade by dividing the sampling data by 17 and multiplying by 100 (see Table 4).

Maan Demonstrand Charles Maan Demoisure for Dead					
Zone	Mean Percentage	Snade	Mean Densiometer	rreading	
20116	Mid-channel	Bank	Mid-Channel	Bank	
Ag	74.92	87.78	12.74	14.92	
Non-Ag	78.57	88.46	13.36	15.04	

Table 4. Mean Stream shading results

Sites under the Ag zoning had a higher percentage of center stream canopy cover (Ag/RR mean 74.92%; Non-Ag mean 78.57%). Bank stream canopy cover was slightly larger on Non-Ag sites (88.94%) than on Ag sites (86.22%).

#### vi. Riparian Vegetation

Riparian vegetation was measured in 3 layers at each transect. (Table 5) The data collected describes the estimated aerial cover that these layers provide. Aerial cover is defined as the amount of shadow that would be cast by a particular layer alone if the sun were directly overhead.

Riparian Vegetation Woody Vegetation Layers				
Canopy	> 5 m height			
Mid level	.5m – 5m			
Ground cover	< .5m			

Ground cover < .5m

Vegetation was also separated by type which, when averaged, yields canopy composition percentage. Ag sites had a higher composition of deciduous cover and 'no' cover while Non-Ag had a higher composition of coniferous and mixed canopies (see Figure 8).



**Figure 8.** Percentage of Canopy Composition types for each transect in both Ag/RR (n=338) and Non-Ag/RR (n= 525) sites. (D= Deciduous; C=Coniferous; M= Mixed Canopy; N= No Canopy Present above .5 m).

Mid-layer compositions percentage on Ag sites was dominated by deciduous vegetation (92%), with less than 1% of the sites having pure coniferous vegetation. Non-Ag sites had more variation; deciduous was still dominate (65%), followed by mixed vegetation (both deciduous and coniferous) (24%).

In order to convert field data into a cover or composition percentage, we used the following matrix (Table 6), as presented in Kaufmann, et. al, 1999.

Field Data	Midpoint Values
0 (Absent)	0
1 (Sparse)	5%
2 (Moderate)	25%
3 (Heavy)	57.5%
4 (Very Heavy)	87.5%

 Table 6.
 Vegetative cover matrix.

For the canopy layer (>5 meters high) of the riparian vegetation we calculated the percentage canopy cover provided by large (>0.3m DBH) and small (<0.3m DBH) trees for both Ag and Non-Ag. Ag had a larger average percentage of canopy cover provided by larger trees (13.7%) than on Non-Ag sites (12.89%). Non-Ag had a higher percentage of canopy cover from small trees (24.8%) than Ag sites 14.2%.

Lastly, we calculated the percentage of woody cover in mid-layer (0.5 meters to 5 meters high) and ground cover layers (<0.5 meters). Non-Ag sites had a higher average

percentage of woody cover (93.0%) than on Ag sites (68.3%). Non-woody cover percentage for the mid and ground layers was greater on Ag sites (85.5%) than on Non-Ag sites (61.9%).

The total percentage of cover can be greater than 100% since both ground layer woody percentage and mid-layer woody percentage are combined (each of which has a possibility of 100%).

#### vii. Large Woody Debris

Large Woody Debris (LWD) inputs have a large influence on stream morphology and habitat characteristics. The size of LWD is also of importance, as smaller pieces play a lesser role in a stream system than do larger pieces. The data collected in the field is categorized into 5 size classes (very small, small, medium, large and very large) based on the following matrix (Table 7).

Diameter Class (m)	Length Class (m)			
	1.5-5     >5-15     >15			
0.1- 0.3	Very Small	Small	Medium	
>0.3- 0.6	Small	Medium	Large	
>0.6- 0.8	Small Large		Large	
>0.8	Medium	Large	Very Large	

|--|

LWD was more prominent for all size classes on Non-Ag. Very small and small sized pieces were fairly common on both Ag and Non-Ag; however, there was a lack of larger pieces (medium-very large) on Ag sites (Figure 9).



Figure 9. Mean LWD frequency per 100 meters

#### viii. Bank Stability

Bank Stability was very similar on both Ag and Non-Ag sites; however, sites on Non-Ag zoned lands exhibited greater variation. Non-Ag sites had a bank stability of 82%; Ag site bank stability was slightly less (79%) (Figure 10). An average linear length of 18 % for Non-Ag sites and 22% for Ag sites were considered to be unstable.



**Figure 10.** Bank stability for both Ag and Non-Ag sites C.S. = covered stable; C.U. = covered unstable; U.S. = uncovered stable; U.U. = uncovered unstable

#### ix. Riparian Disturbance

Riparian disturbance data was collected at each of the 11 transects of a study reach. Values were given for each influence, depending on its proximity to the stream. These values were then used to determine the Proximity Weighted Disturbance Index (PWDI) for each reach according to Kauffman, et al, 1999 (See Table 8).

Data Range	Level of Anthropogenic Influence
04	Low
> .48	Medium
> .8 - 1.2	High
> 1.2	Very High

**Table 8.** Categories of anthropogenic influence based on the Proximity Weighted

 Disturbance Index (PWDI) for each site. (Adapted from Hayslip et al., 2004)

This index combines the extent of the disturbance as well as the proximity of the disturbance to the stream (Hayslip et al., 2004). The most prominent riparian disturbance in Ag is dikes followed by pasture. Logging followed by roads are the most prominent disturbance in Non-Ag. See the Discussion section for land use comparisons between Ag and Non-Ag sites. Most PWDI values were below .4, (See Figure 11), which according to Hayslip, et al, 2004 would be a "Low" level of anthropogenic influence. Only the influence of dikes in Ag would be considered a "Medium" influence.



Figure 11. PWDI values for land use types

#### x. Fish Cover

Fish cover data was analyzed using the same weighted index as the 'Riparian Vegetation' index, but data collection methodology was slightly different. Field crews estimated the percentage of aerial cover in four classes (Table 9). Eight fish cover types were measured between each of the 11 transects along the study reach. Fish cover types recorded were: filamentous algae, aquatic macrophytes, LWD, brush and small woody debris, in-channel live trees and roots, overhanging vegetation (including grasses and other non-woody species), undercut banks, boulders and artificial structures. For our analysis we examined only natural cover, excluding algae and macrophytes.

Fish Cover Category	% Cover Estimate
Absent	0
Sparse	0-10
Moderate	10-40
Heavy	40-75
Very Heavy	> 75

 Table 9. Cover percentage estimate used when collecting fish cover data.

Natural fish cover percentage was higher on Non-Ag sites than on Ag sites. There were also differences in live tree cover and cover from undercut banks. For both of these categories, Non-Ag sites had a larger percentage of live tree cover and Ag sites had more undercut bank cover (see Figure 12).



Figure 12. Fish cover types by percentage. In addition, mean totals for both Ag and Non-Ag are shown.

#### xi. Rosgen Stream Type

As indicated in the Quality Assurance Project Plan (Appendix A), all 60 sites will be typed according to Rosgen (1996) stream classification. However, it was determined that many of the sites surveyed have been significantly altered from their natural state. As a result of these anthropogenic alterations many of the lowland streams no longer fit into the Rosgen stream typing system. It was determined that little could be derived from this analysis; therefore, it has not been done.

## **IV.** Discussion

In the 2004 sampling season we did not achieve our goal of 60 sites surveyed necessary to establish baseline conditions. During the fall of 2004 it was decided, after consultation with EPA scientist, that in 2005 Skagit County personnel will continue our sampling efforts with the objective of completing the original 60 sites. This report summarizes the data from these two sampling years which is combined to establish a 2004/2005 baseline year. Since the goal of the 2004/2005 sampling years was to establish one set of data for baseline conditions, staff was unable to conduct any type of trend analysis. After five years of data collection we will be able to do limited trend analysis on selected habitat indicators. Consequently, in this section we will only discuss some of the differences we observed between the two sampling zones; Ag and Non-Ag.

#### i. Sample Sites

During the June to October 2004 sampling season, great efforts were made to achieve the program's goal of 60 sites. Over 328 Right of Entry requests were sent out, of which 82 were returned to the County. This represents a 26% response rate. Of these 82 responses, most gave permission to access their land.

Table 10 –	2004	Right of	Entry	Summary
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TOTAL ROES SENT TO PRIVATE LANDOWNERS	310	* Some ROEs were	
TOTAL ROES SENT TO PUBLIC LANDOWNERS	18	through public and meetings and phon	
NUMBER OF SITES REPRESENTED BY MAILING	143	requiring a ROE.	
TOTAL RESPONDING TO ROE REQUESTS	82	Many sites require which further com problem. This lack access a site from a was the main reaso the sampling schee County to samplin original 60 sites go summarizes the Co obtain Rights of En During 2004, we s sites– 24 of those y	
RECIEVED AG ROES	37		
RECIEVED NON-AG ROES	45		
TOTAL RECIEVED ROES UTILIZED TO SAMPLE 40 SITES <sup>*</sup>	37		
RECIEVED AG ROES UTILIZED TO SAMPLE 16 SITES *	12		
RECIEVED NON-AG ROES UTILIZED TO SAMPLE 24 SITES*	25		

\* Some ROEs were obtained verbally through public and private landowner meetings and phone conversations or involved State or Federal lands not requiring a ROE.

Many sites required multiple ROEs, which further compounded the 'access' problem. This lack of permission to access a site from all adjacent landowners was the main reason for interruptions to the sampling schedule and restricted the County to sampling only 40 of the original 60 sites goal. Table 10 summarizes the County's initial efforts to obtain Rights of Entries.

During 2004, we surveyed a total of 40 sites– 24 of those were on Non-Ag/RR zoned lands (5 are annual) and 16 on

Ag/RR zoned lands (3 are annual). The plan going into the 2005 sampling season was to 1) resurvey the 8 annual sites surveyed in 2004 and 2) survey an additional 20 sites to make up for the shortcoming on baseline sites in 2004. In 2005, 28 sites were sampled which should have given us 60 total sites to establish baseline conditions, with the 8 annual sites being revisited. One baseline site was converted to an annual site which did not get replaced with an additional baseline site. Consequently, we ended up with 59 total sites surveyed. Failure to achieve our goal of 60 baseline sites surveyed will only have a minor effect on our ability to detect trends later in the study.

#### ii. Land Use

Ongoing agricultural activities were less prevalent than what might be expected on the Ag sites sampled (see Figure 13).



**Figure 13.** Percentage of agriculture activities along 2004/2005 sample site reaches. Agricultural activities are divided amongst zoning, then by proximity to the stream bank and finally by which side the stream that activity was occurring (LB or RB looking downstream).

Figure 11 shows the most prevalent land-use effects for each zoning class. Diking, pasture lands, crop lands and roads were the greatest anthropogenic influences on Ag sites. These types of activities result in a number of effects that can be seen in riparian and stream habitats. The replacement of natural forest, grasslands, and wetlands with annual crop and/ or pasture lands can leave large areas un-vegetated during part of the year and can also dramatically alter the function of plants and microbes in the tilled areas. The repeated disturbance of tillage, fertilization and harvest permanently alters soil characteristics, resulting in reduced infiltration and increased surface runoff. These changes have effects on seasonal streamflow patterns by increasing high flows, lowering water tables and reducing summer base flows (Spence et al., 1996). Diking and channelizing streams on agricultural lands provides a means to attempt to control flood events and provide drainage. As a consequence of changing the geometry of stream channels on cropped lands, these straightened channels facilitate more rapid routing of water to the stream channel, thereby increasing peak flows downstream (Spence et al., 1996). In general, the agricultural practices of diking, channelization, snag removal, and removal of riparian vegetation reduce habitat complexity, decrease channel stability, and alter the food base of the stream. As a result, many streams on agricultural lands typically support smaller fish and fewer fish species (Spence et al., 1996).

On Non-Ag lands, two sites did exhibit signs of ongoing agriculture (see Figure 13). Much of the adjacent land-use on Non-Ag sites involved logging on secondary and

industrial forests. Logging practices have a profound effect on riparian and stream habitat, including the removal and disturbance of natural vegetation and disturbance and compaction of soils. The construction of roads can also negatively affect stream habitat when culverts fail or become impassable (Spence et al., 1996). Site disturbance and road construction usually increase the amount of sediment delivered to the streams through mass wasting and surface erosion. This process can increase the percentage of fine sediment, which fills interstitial spaces between spawning gravel, thus rendering those areas unsuitable for spawning (Spence et al., 1996). Forest practices also reduce the recruitment of LWD into a stream, thus altering the hydrology and sediment transport systems. As a result, this reduces the complexity of micro and macrohabitats and can lead to the loss of pools and sinuosity (Spence et al., 1996). Changes in habitat conditions, as a result of these processes, may affect fish assemblage structure and diversity, alter age-structure of salmonid populations and disrupt the timing of life-history events. Other effects are also apt to occur, including reduced embryo survival and fry production, decreased growth efficiency, increased susceptibility to disease and predation, lower over-winter survival and blocked migration (Spence et al., 1996).

#### iii. Temperature

Temperature data collected for this program should not, and will not, be used for any type of trend analysis or hypotheses. Only over 59 temperature measurements were taken. These measurements span over nearly 5 months (June to October) and were taken at different times during the day. We therefore expected a large amount of variance from such a small data set. For a more detailed analysis of stream temperature in the Skagit River Basin, see the *Skagit County Monitoring Program* annual report (Haley, 2005), which is available on Skagit County's website (http://www.skagitcounty.net/scmp).

#### iv. Channel Form

Non-Ag sites had a mean stream gradient steeper than Ag sites which can partially be explained by the general geographic location of the study sites within the watershed.

With the addition of the data from the 2005 sampling season the wetted width and bankfull width were not appreciably larger on Non-Ag than on Ag sites that we surveyed. In comparing Ag sites and Non-Ag sites the data show a remarkable similarity in the channel form. Mean bankfull width was 8.28 meters for Non-Ag sites and 8.20 meters for Ag sites.

Ten of the 29 streams surveyed under Ag zoning had been, or are currently, undergoing channelization or straightening and five are being, or have historically been dredged. Both of these anthropogenic activities can yield narrower stream channels which reduces wetted and bankfull widths. Only 2 sites under Non-Ag zoning had any signs of dredging or channelization, past or present.

#### v. Substrate

All sizes of substrate were observed in our samplings. Coarse gravels were the largest component of substrate from the Non-Ag sites, whereas fine sediment is the dominant substrate for the Ag sites. The considerable amount of fines/silts and the lack of substrate larger than gravel in the Ag sites can be linked to the location on the Skagit River Delta and the underlying alluvium. As gradient decreases, it is expected that bedload and suspended load compositions will change in size and distribution (Allan 1995).

Anthropogenic activities including dredging, poor agricultural practices, road run-off and channelization could also explain the large percentage of fines observed. Fine sediments are a natural element of stream gravel; however, large inputs of fine sediment into streams can bury spawning gravel, thereby precluding its use (Platts and Megahan 1975). The presence of excessive fine sediments within redds has been shown to reduce egg to fry survival due to a reduction in inter-gravel flow. This reduces the availability of dissolved oxygen required by eggs and fry (Peters 1962). Suttle et al. (2004) associated decreased steelhead growth and survival with increased fine sediment deposition. With increased fine sediment, invertebrate prey species assemblage shifted from available exposed organisms to unavailable burrowing taxa. Suttle et al. (2004) defined fine sediment as a particle size less than 2 mm median diameter. Fine sediment (<.063 mm), Fine Sand (< .5 mm) and Course Sand (<2mm) accounted for over 49% stream bed material sampled for the Ag sites and 24% for Non-Ag site.

A majority of the substrate found on Ag sites larger than gravel was not naturally occurring (i.e. rip-rap around bridges, etc.) streambed material. Dredging also removes these types of substrate, leaving only sand and fine sediment behind.

#### vi. Sinuosity

Streams naturally exhibit a certain amount of sinuosity relative to stream flow, substrate, LWD and gradient. A larger degree of sinuosity typically represents more complex and diverse stream habitat. Historically, sites that fall under the Puget Lowlands Ecoregion would generally have a degree of sinuosity greater than 1.2 (A sinuosity of one would be a totally straight channel) (Rosgen, 1996). However, we found that Ag sites had a mean sinuosity value of 1.12. This could be the result of channelization of streams on the lower elevations of the Skagit River Basin, in particular, on the Skagit River Delta. Eleven of the 30 Ag sites we surveyed exhibited characteristics of dredging, channelization, or both.

Streams above the Puget Lowlands Ecoregion would typically exhibit a larger range of sinuosity (> 1.2), depending on valley width, landforms, soils and substrate (Rosgen 1996). We found that Non-Ag sites had a mean sinuosity value of 1.32; however, it is difficult to draw any conclusion from this data since sinuosity on these sites can be so variable.

#### vii. Canopy Cover

Shade provided by riparian canopy cover on Ag and Non-Ag sites averaged over 75% (see Table 4). Shade was not provided solely by trees but also by less permanent vegetation such as small shrubs and grasses, as was the case on many Ag sites. Very few sites that we surveyed had no riparian vegetation. Of those that did, it was either a result of vegetation removal or, as on the larger streams, the stream meandered and was dynamic enough to remove larger trees and shrubs. The mean bankfull width and mean wetted width were very similar for both Ag and Non-Ag sites. This would help explain the similarity in riparian cover.

#### viii. Riparian Vegetation

Deciduous trees were dominant on both Ag and Non-Ag sites; however, there was an obvious lack of coniferous trees on Ag sites. Coniferous trees provide a greater function in streams due to the decay-resistance of the wood and their larger size (Hayslip et al, 2004). The loss of the recruitment source of LWD from the adjacent riparian areas can, over time, result in the loss of habitat complexity for both invertebrate and salmonid species. Canopy cover provided by large trees (>0.3m dbh) was slightly higher on Ag sites (13.7%) compared to Non-Ag sites (12.8%). This could be partially explained by the number of Ag sites located on the Samish River which tend to have an intact riparian area with large trees despite its location in Ag/RRL zoning. Canopy cover provided by small trees (<0.3m dbh) was much higher on Non-Ag sites (24.8%) than on Ag sites (14.20%). This is generally more aligned to what might be expected. Even though few sites had no trees, Non-Ag sites generally had a greater density of trees around our study reaches.

Woody cover in the mid and ground layers was also greater on Non-Ag sites. On some Ag streams, particularly where a dike was present, the vegetation in the mid and ground layers was predominately non-woody (i.e., Reed Canary Grass) which is reflected in the non-woody cover percentage (Non-Ag 61.9%, Ag 85.5%). On Non-Ag sites, much of the vegetation consisted of woody shrubs (i.e., Salmon Berry).

#### ix. Large Woody Debris (LWD)

LWD counts were greater for all size classes on Non-Ag sites versus Ag sites (Figure 14). However, of greater implications is the lack of larger LWD (greater than the Small class) on Ag sites (See Figure 9). LWD provides many functions in a stream channel, including the formation of pools, sorting/retention of sediment used for spawning, and flow variations (Hayslip, 2004). The shortage of larger trees on many Ag sites, in conjunction with stream maintenance and historic LWD removal, likely account for this deficiency.



Figure 14 – LWD/meter stream in Non-Ag and Ag

LWD is also less likely to 'anchor' on sites that are disconnected from their floodplain, especially those that have been straightened and/or diked. These streams do not provide an area for LWD to become incorporated into the channel when they exhibit these characteristics.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (1996) suggests that streams should have > 5 pieces per 100m of LWD >24 inches to function properly. On average, neither Ag nor Non-Ag sites meet this standard. The amount of LWD that would be considered to be at an adequate level are dependent on stream attributes such a width, gradient and watershed. With the wide variety of stream types we sampled it is difficult to assess if the sampled streams have the appropriate LWD loading levels. Additional analysis could be done to partition out observed loading level versus stream widths, but it was not done for this report. The amount of LWD we observed in the Non-Ag streams was similar to what Hayslip (2004) observed in the Western Cascade Lowlands and valley sub-ecoregion.

#### x. Bank Stability

The mean bank stability was 79% for Ag and 82% for Non-Ag sites. NMFS (1996) suggested that a stream stability of less than 80% would fall into the category of "Not Properly Functioning" and to be considered "Properly Functioning" no more than 10% of the banks can be actively eroding. Since the criteria we used as stable or unstable may not be equivalent to what is being referred in the NMFS (1996), the percentage we express should not be assumed to be equivalent. Our data does suggest a marginal level of bank instability in the streams we sampled.

#### xi. Riparian Disturbance

The removal, or severe alteration, of riparian habitat and vegetation can reduce the quality and quantity of habitat in a stream system (Hayslip, 2004). We used a proximity– weighted disturbance index, (PWDI) (Kaufmann, et al. 1999), to determine the extent of riparian disturbances caused by anthropogenic activities around the sites we surveyed.

Nearly all types of land-use influences, as outlined in the EMAP protocols, were observed at both Ag and Non-Ag sites. On Ag sites, the most prevalent (> 0.2 PWDI) land-use disturbances were associated with dikes, pasture land and roads. On Non-Ag sites, the most prevalent disturbances were associated with roads and logging (> 0.2 PWDI), (Figure 11). Other influences were measured, but their effects were generally not as great. The influence of both crop production and buildings in Ag-zoned areas were low, (~0.1 PWDI) but much larger than on Non-Ag sites. Anthropogenic disturbances measured at a particular site were, for the most part, similar to land-use practices around that study site.

#### xii. Fish Cover

Mean natural fish cover was higher on Non-Ag sites and the composition of this cover also differed between zonings. For example, much of the overhanging vegetation on Ag sites was a result of an excess of Reed Canary Grass or Blackberries (both exotic species) growing on the bank or, on occasion, in the water. In contrast, much of the overhanging vegetation on Non-Ag sites was caused by native woody shrubs and small trees. The higher levels of LWD loading on Non-Ag sites (See Figure 14) is also reflected in the higher percent of habitat associated with LWD on Non-Ag sites compared to Ag sites (See Figure 11). These types of distinctions are sometimes lost in this data but are important, due to their individual longevity as cover and habitat types, and their effectiveness of providing cover for invertebrates and fish species.

#### xiii. General Discussion

Since this program uses zoning to differentiate between Ag and Non-Ag sites, it makes it difficult, in a baseline report, to completely assess whether activities associated with agriculture are having a greater, same, or less of an effect on stream habitat than other land-use activities. We surveyed many sites under Ag zoning that showed little or no signs of ongoing agriculture. More often than not, we found the major influences on these streams stemmed from previous dredging, channelization, the resulting loss of floodplain connectivity, the scarcity of mature riparian canopy and the absence of LWD.

There were, however, sites that were strongly influenced by past and on-going agriculture and related activities. Prior to the implementation of this program, as outlined by Skagit County Resolutions #R20030210 and #R20040211, it was already an accepted reality that salmonid habitat on most streams adjacent to ongoing agricultural activities had already been degraded in some capacity (i.e., loss of riparian structure and composition, increased fine sediment inputs, loss of LWD recruitment, etc.). We found that, in most cases, when agriculture was actively occurring near a stream course there was a lack of LWD, riparian vegetation, shade from woody vegetation and a high percentage of fine sediments and non-woody vegetation.

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## **APPENDIX A**

# SKAGIT COUNTY SALMON HABITAT MONITORING PROGRAM

### **QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECT PLAN**

May 20, 2004

Derek Koellmann, Salmon Recovery Coordinator/Project Manager Surface Water Management Section Skagit County Public Works

#### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Skagit County will conduct a survey of physical channel and in-stream habitat conditions to document, quantify, and track salmon habitat conditions in the Skagit River Watershed over time. To accomplish this end, the County will use Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) site selection protocols and procedures to select a representative set of sampling locations (stream reaches) where habitat conditions will be surveyed. The County will also primarily use EMAP survey protocols and procedures to conduct the habitat surveys; however, certain methods have been modified to increase the level of precision associated with this survey and to collect additional data.

The objectives of this effort are to establish a baseline of current general physical habitat conditions in WRIAs 3 & 4, determine whether habitat conditions are stable, improving or degrading over time, and provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat conditions in Agriculture-NRL & Rural Resource-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. This effort is in response to Skagit County Resolution #R20030210, which specifies actions the County will take to ensure that Skagit County Code 14.24.120, Ongoing Agriculture, is adequately protecting critical areas on agricultural lands.

Selected sampling sites will be equally stratified between Agriculture-NRL & Rural Resource-NRL zoned lands and other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. Sampling will be conducted only on wadeable streams that have been determined to be salmonid bearing or have the potential to be salmonid bearing per the *Washington State Conservation Commission – Salmon and Steelhead Limiting Factors Water Resource Inventory Areas 3 & 4 Skagit Watershed* (June 2003). Furthermore, sampling will only be conducted on sites where county staff has been granted permission by the landowners to enter to surveying the site.

#### PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILTITY

#### Personnel

Project Manager:	Derek Koellmann
	Salmon Recovery Coordinator
	Surface Water Management Section
	Skagit County Public Works
	1800 Continental Place
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Assistant Manager: Jeff McGowan Salmon Habitat Specialist Surface Water Management Section Skagit County Public Works 1800 Continental Place Mount Vernon, WA 98273 360-336-9400

- Field Technician(s): Chris Kowitz Skagit County Public Works 1800 Continental Place Mount Vernon, WA 98273 360-336-9400
- Supervisor: Ric Boge Natural Resource Project Manager Surface Water Management Section Skagit County Public Works 1800 Continental Place Mount Vernon, WA 98273 360-336-9400

#### **SCHEDULE**

#### Year 1

#### March 2004

Begin preliminary site survey to establish problem sites, unusual circumstances, etc.

#### April 2004

Field training with Washington State Department of Ecology

• Begin work on rights of entry (ROE) for proposed 1st year monitoring sites. Continue preliminary site surveys

May - September 2004

Initiate and complete 1<sup>st</sup> year Baseline Study encompassing 60 sampling sites (study period ends October 1, 2004) Continue to pursue ROEs Ongoing data entry

October 2004 - October 2005

Review data, establish baseline habitat conditions, and draft report

#### Years 2-5

March 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 respectively

Begin work on rights of entry (ROE) for proposed  $2^{nd} - 5^{th}$  year monitoring sites.

June-August 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 respectively

Initiate and complete 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> year Baseline Study encompassing 20 sampling sites per year (study period ends on October 1 of each year). Ongoing data entry

October 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 respectively

Review data and analyze habitat trends

#### Years 6-10

Repeat procedures from years 1-5 with year 6 being a 60 site sampling year.

#### **Years 11-15**

Repeat procedures from years 1-5 with year 11 being a 60 site sampling year.

#### Years 16-20

Repeat procedures from years 1-5 with year 16 being a 60 site sampling year.

#### **STUDY DESIGN**

Skagit County staff will use EMAP physical habitat survey protocols to conduct a salmon habitat survey for portions of Skagit County. Reaches will be randomly selected using EMAP site selection protocols. A general overview of EMAP is provided below.

A minimum of 60 stream reaches will be randomly selected for inclusion in the 2004 sampling regime. In 2005-2008, 20 randomly selected reaches per year will be surveyed to provide information to be used for trend analyses. In 2009 another randomly selected 60 reaches will be surveyed and the five-year data collection cycle will begin again. See Table 1 - Sampling Regime By Zoning Class And Year, below.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
AG/RR- Nrl	30	10	10	10	10	30	10	10	10	10
Other Lands	30	10	10	10	10	30	10	10	10	10
Total # of sites	60	20	20	20	20	60	20	20	20	20

TABLE 1. SAMPLING REGIME BY ZONING CLASS AND YEAR

All sampling will be conducted only on streams that are or have the potential to be salmonid-bearing and are wadeable. Salmonid-bearing status is based on the *Washington State Conservation Commission – Salmon and Steelhead Limiting Factors Water Resource Inventory Areas 3 & 4 Skagit Watershed* (June 2003). Sites selected will be equally divided between those in Agriculture-Natural Resource Land (Ag-NRL) and Rural Resource-Natural Resource Land (RRc-NRL) zoned lands (as defined by the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan) and other lands within County jurisdiction. After initial reconnaissance of selected sites, only those deemed to be safely accessible and with landowner permission for access will become part of the sample.

Details regarding the sampling site selection process can be found in Appendix A, *Skagit Basin Streams Survey Design*.

#### EMAP OVERVIEW

The Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) is a research program to develop the tools necessary to monitor and assess the status and trends of national ecological resources. EMAP's goal is to develop the methodologies for translating environmental monitoring data from multiple spatial and temporal scales into assessments of current ecological condition and forecasts of future risks to our natural resources.

EMAP aims to advance the science of ecological monitoring and ecological risk assessment, guide national monitoring with improved scientific understanding of ecosystem integrity and dynamics, and demonstrate multi-agency monitoring through large regional projects. EMAP identifies and utilizes appropriate indicators to monitor the condition of ecological resources.

The objectives of Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program are somewhat

different from a standard EMAP sampling regime. The county's program is designed to track not only overall status and trends in the Skagit Watershed, but also to track trends both in and between Agriculture-NRL & Rural Resource-NRL zoned lands and other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. This is different than most EMAP programs that tend to look only at overall status and trends.

#### **STUDY AREA**

The study area encompasses those areas of WRIAs 3 & 4 under direct jurisdiction of Skagit County government. Areas specifically excluded from the study area include National Park and Forest lands, incorporated municipalities, and those portions of WRIAs 1 & 5 that fall within Skagit County's political jurisdiction.

Survey reaches will be equally divided between those in Agriculture-Natural Resource Land (Ag-NRL) and Rural Resource-Natural Resource Land (RRc-NRL) zoned lands (as defined by the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan), and other lands within County jurisdiction. Sampling will be limited to wadeable streams that are or have the potential to be salmonid-bearing per the *Washington State Conservation Commission – Salmon and Steelhead Limiting Factors Water Resource Inventory Areas 3 & 4 Skagit Watershed* (June 2003). Further, sampling will only be conducted on sites where county staff has been granted permission by the landowners to enter to surveying the site.

#### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

- Establish a statistically valid baseline of the current general physical habitat conditions in WRIAs 3 & 4 during the first year of the project.
- Conduct additional habitat conditions monitoring in future years to be used to analyze trends in salmon habitat conditions over time.
- Determine whether habitat conditions are improving, degrading, or remaining static in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands.
- Provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat conditions in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction.

#### STUDY CONSTRAINTS

Skagit County's salmon habitat survey is limited to lands under direct Skagit County jurisdiction, surveys will be conducted only on wadeable streams, and entry to sampling sites will require approval from the landowners of the surrounding areas. As such, Skagit County understands that it can only make statements related to the stream network covered by the survey.

#### MONITORING PARAMETERS AND PROTOCOLS

Save for the exceptions listed below, the parameters and protocols used for Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Survey stem directly from the Environmental Protection Agency's *Surface Waters Western Pilot Study: Field Operations Manual for Wadeable Streams – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program.* [http:// www.epa.gov/emap/html/pubs/docs/groupdocs/surfwatr/field/ewwsm01.html]

A survey reach is defined as a stream reach with a minimum length of either 40 times its low flow wetted width or 30 times its bankfull width for sites requiring annual revisits. Measurement points are systematically identified to represent the entire reach. Stream depth and wetted width are measured at tightly spaced intervals, whereas channel crosssection profiles, substrate, bank characteristics and riparian vegetation structure are measured at larger spacings. Large Woody Debris (LWD) is tallied along the full length of the survey reach, and discharge is measured at one location. The tightly spaced depth and width measures allow calculation of indices of channel structural complexity, objective classification of channel units such as pools, and quantification of residual pool depth, pool volume, and total stream volume.

#### **Types of Measurements**

- **Stream Discharge** Discharge (flow) is a measure of the amount of water flowing in a watercourse. Stream discharge is equal to the product of the mean current velocity and vertical cross sectional area of flowing water.
- **Thalweg Profile** A longitudinal survey of depth, habitat class, presence of soft/small sediment deposits, and off-channel habitat along a stream's centerline between the two ends of the sampling reach. "Thalweg" refers to the flow path of the deepest water in a stream channel.
- Large Woody Debris Tally A visual survey allowing for quantitative estimates of the number, size, total volume and distribution of wood within the stream reach. LWD is defined here as woody material with a small end diameter of at least 10 cm (4 in.) and a length of at least 1.5 m (5 ft.).
- **Channel and Riparian Characterization** Measurements and/or visual estimates of channel dimensions, substrate, fish cover, bank characteristics, riparian vegetation structure, presence of large (legacy) riparian trees, non-native (alien) riparian plants, and evidence of human disturbances. In addition, measurements of the stream slope and compass bearing between stations are obtained, providing information necessary for calculating reach gradient, residual pool volume, and channel sinuosity.

Assessment of Channel Constraint, Debris Torrents, and Major Floods – An overall assessment of the above mentioned characteristics for the whole reach including identifying features causing channel constraint, and estimating the percentage of constrained channel margin for the whole reach and the ratio of bankfull/valley width.

#### Variables Calculated from the Field Data

Habitat metrics will be calculated from field data according to procedures described in Kaufmann et. al. (1999). The metric list in Appendix B is a subset of the EMAP habitat variables and only includes those most often used by EMAP.

#### MONITORING PROTOCOLS

Save for the exceptions listed below under the headings *Modified Methods, Additional Parameters, and Additional Protocols*, the methods, parameters, and protocols to be used for Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Survey stem directly from the Environmental Protection Agency's *Surface Waters Western Pilot Study: Field Operations Manual for Wadeable Streams – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program.* 

#### **Modified Methods**

This section details the modifications that Skagit County has made to the protocols contained in the Environmental Protection Agency's *Surface Waters Western Pilot Study: Field Operations Manual for Wadeable Streams – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program.* 

**Slope** - Stream slope will be calculated by hydrostatic leveling using two metric stadia rods and a 20-meter length of 10-mm (3.8 inch) inside diameter tubing. The tubing is filled with water and extended along the streambed. When the water within the tubing stabilizes, the change in height is determined by the difference in water column height between the upstream and downstream end. The slope is the height (m) difference divided by length (m). The resulting ratio is unitless, but will be multiplied by 100 and reported as a percentage (Davis et. al. 2001)

**Substrate Measurement** – Sixteen substrate classes (the Field Ops Manual calls for eleven) will be used to help reduce variance associated with substrate measurements. The additional size class distinctions are detailed in Table 2 - Increased Substrate Sampling Size Classes.

### TABLE 2. INCREASED SUBSTRATE SAMPLING SIZE CLASSES

Description of Particle Size	Mm	EMAP STANDARD Size Class	Skagit County Size Class	
Bedrock <b>TABLE 2. INCREASEI</b> SUBSTRATE SAMPLING SIZ CLASSES	Smooth	>4096	Bedrock Smooth (RS)	Bedrock Smooth (RS)
	Rough	>4096	Bedrock Rough (RR)	Bedrock Rough (RR)
Hardpan		>4096	Hardpan (HP)	Hardpan (HP)
Boulder	Very Large	2048 - 4096	Boulder (BL)	Large Boulder (LB)
	Large	1024 - 2048		
	Medium	512 - 1024		Small Boulder (SB)
	Small	256 - 512		
Cobble	Large	128 - 256	Cobble (CB)	Large Cobble (CL)
	Small	64 - 128		Small Cobble (CS)
Gravel	Very Coarse	32 - 64	Course Gravel (GC)	Very Course Gravel (GV)
	Coarse	16 - 32		Course Gravel (GC)
	Medium	8 - 16	Fine Gravel (GF)	Medium Gravel (GM)
	Fine	4 - 8		Fine Gravel (GF)
	Very fine	2 - 4		

Sand	Very Coarse 1 - 2		Sand (SA)	Coarse Sand (SC)
	Coarse	0.500 – 1		
	Medium	0.250 -0.500		Fine Sand (SF)
	Fine	0.125 -0.250		
	Very fine	0.063 -0.125		
Silt/Clay		0.00024 - 0.063	Fines (FN)	Fines (FN)
Wood		Regardless of Size	Wood (WD)	Wood (WD)
Other		Regardless of Size	Other (OT)	Other (OT)

**Bankfull width** - Bankfull measurements will be conducted in accordance with the protocols contained in *A Guide for Field Identification of Bankfull Stage in the Western United States* - USDA, Forest Service, Stream Systems Technology Center Rocky Mountain Research Station. <u>http://www.stream.fs.fed.us/</u>

**Large Woody Debris Tallies** – In addition to the procedure detailed in the Field Ops Manual for tallying large woody debris (LWD), the presence of large woody debris jams will be documented in the comments portion of the *Thalweg Profile and Woody Debris* field form. Included in the comments will be a visual estimate of the metric volume of any large woody debris jam.

#### **Additional Parameters**

This section details the additional variables that Skagit County will survey beyond those contained in the Environmental Protection Agency's *Surface Waters Western Pilot Study: Field Operations Manual for Wadeable Streams – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program.* 

**Streambank Stability** - A streambank stability protocol derived from a combination of the EPA volunteer stream monitoring methods (EPA, 1997) and the EPA protocol by Bauer and Burton (1993) will be used to assess bank stability. Stream banks of a discrete habitat unit will be examined and assigned percentages to quantify bank shape, class, and coverage. Within each category (shape, class, and coverage), each bank, left and right, counts as 50% of the unit, with both sides adding up to 100% for each parameter. During data analysis, all the habitat units of a reach are assessed to compile a bank stability profile of an entire reach.

#### Bank Shape

Three types of bank shapes are considered: undercut, steep, and gradual. An undercut bank overhangs the stream and usually has been undercut by water movement. It is not necessary for water to be flowing under the bank at the time of the survey, as long as the undercut shape serves as the bank of the active channel. "Steep" bank slopes exceed a 30-degree angle and tend to be vulnerable to erosion. A "gradually sloping" bank has a slope of 30 degrees or less. Although a gradual bank is less vulnerable to erosion, it does not provide much streamside cover (EPA, 1997).

#### Bank Class

Two parameters are assessed to create a combination of four types of bank class conditions: covered stable, covered unstable, uncovered stable, and uncovered unstable. A bank is considered "covered" if perennial vegetation ground cover is greater than 50%, roots of vegetation cover more than 50% of the bank, at least 50% of the bank surfaces are protected by rocks of cobble size or larger, or at least 50 % of the bank surfaces are protected by logs with diameters of four inches or more. If the bank does not meet any of these criteria, it is considered "uncovered". A bank with visible signs of deterioration, including breakage, slumping, fractures, and erosion, is considered "unstable" (Bauer & Burton, 1993).

#### Bank Coverage

Vegetation adjacent to the stream provides resistance to erosion, shade for the creek, and can provide cover and organic material for fish and wildlife. As part of the bank assessment, the composition of riparian vegetation at the edge of the active channel is recorded to evaluate what is functioning to stabilize the immediate bank. Bank cover is recorded as a percentage of a category (conifer, deciduous, shrub, grass/fern, and other – boulder, cobble, large woody debris). The species or type of cover is also identified next to each percentage.

**Rosgen Stream Type** – Upon completion of a field survey, USGS quad maps will be used in the office to determine the flood prone width (valley width) of the surveyed stream reach. This information will be used in conjunction with field survey data to identify the Rosgen (1996) channel type of the surveyed reach.

#### **Additional Protocols**

**Photography Protocol** – A series of photographs will be taken at each survey site to assist in documenting habitat conditions at individual sites. All photos will include a date and time stamp and will also be individually recorded on the *Photo Documentation* form as photos are taken.

Photos taken for each site shall include:

Photos upstream and downstream of the most upstream transect (2 total).
Photos upstream and downstream of the most downstream transect (2 total).
Photos upstream and downstream of the median transect (2 total).
Photos as necessary to identify a particular survey site (e.g. monument photos)
Photos to document any unusual features found in the survey reach (e.g. LWD jams, significant erosion, bridges, etc.)

**Remote Sensing Protocol** – At five year intervals, in conjunction with the 60-site sampling regimes, Landsat ETM satellite derived land cover images will be used to estimate percentages of land use and land cover (impervious surface, vegetation, and other cover types) for the watersheds upstream of sample sites. Land use and land cover percentages will be compared with data collected during the sampling regimes to help associate channel habitat changes with landscape level changes. This information will also be used to address influences to habitat originating outside of the sample reaches.

Land use will be categorized into classes based on a modified Anderson classification shown in Table 3 – Remote Sensing Land Use Classes.

10 WATER		
11	Open Water	
12	Perennial Ice/Snow	
14	Water Transistion	
15	Riparian Exposed*	
19	Shadow	
20DEVELOPED		
21	Low Intensity Residential	(Suburban)
22	High Intensity Residential	(City)
23	Commercial/Industrial/Transportation	(Roads, Strip malls)
30 BARREN		
31	Bare Rock/ Sand/Clay	
32	Quarries/Strip Mines/ Gravel Pits	
33	Transitional	
35	Mudflats	
36	Bare Alpine	
37	Bare Forest	
38	Bare Mid-Elevation	
39	Sandbar	
40FORESTED UPLAND		
41	Deciduous Forest	
42	Evergreen Forest	

12		
43	Mixed Forest	
44	Recent Cut	
45	Second Growth Forest	
50SHRUBLAND		
51	Shrub	
60NON_NATURAL WOOD	<i>I</i>	
61	Orchards/Vineyards/Tree Farms	
70HERBACEOUS UPLAND		
71	Grasslands/Herbaceous	
80HERBACEOUS PLANTEI	D/CULTIVATED	
81	Pasture/Hay	
82	Row Crops	
83	Small Grains	
84	Fallow	
85	Urban/ Recreational Grasses	
90WETLANDS		
91	Woody wetlands	
02	Emana and Hasha and Wetlands	
92	Emergent Herbaceous wetlands	
99 99	UNKNOWN	

**Annual Sampling Site Protocol** – For each annual sampling site, the following protocols will be implemented to ensure consistency and increase precision between years.

Each site will be monumented using a combination of GPS coordinates and landmarks (e.g. a particular tree) to ensure the same reach is surveyed annually. Specific landmarks will be photo-documented for future reference.

The length of stream to be surveyed for the annual sites will be calculated in the first year based on 30 times the bankfull width as opposed to 40 times the wetted width to provide for consistency between sampling years. In addition, stream lengths to be sampled will be standardized (stream reach length will remain constant from year to year).

**Non-Sampleable Site Protocol** – Documentation will be provided for each site that is determined to be unsampleable (e.g. survey crews are unable to obtain landowner permission to enter the site, access to the site is too steep to be safely traversed, etc.)

#### **QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES**

#### Field QC Procedures

Field instruments will be tested and calibrated prior to each sampling event and operated as per the manufacturers' instructions. Suspect readings from field meters will result in

the examination of probes, recalibration if necessary, and/or repeated measurement.

Before leaving a sample reach, the team leader will review all of the data forms for accuracy, completeness, and legibility. When reviewing field data forms, the team leader will ensure that all required data forms for the reach have been completed and confirm that the site identification code, the year, the visit number, and the date of the visit are correct on all forms. On each form, all information will be verified to ensure it has been recorded accurately, is legible, and that any flags are explained in the comments section. The crew will also verify that the recorded data makes logical sense. After reviewing each form, the team leader will initial the upper right corner of each page of the form.

#### **Corrective Procedures**

Corrective procedures related to the survey program will take place as they are warranted. The Project Manager will be responsible for corrective actions regarding field data collection and documentation. These actions may include additional data collection, field equipment training, equipment checks, calibrations standard verification, and recalibration in the field. Office activities may include correction of the database, meetings with monitoring team members, instrument repair, and revision of procedures. In addition, personnel with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and/or the Washington State Department of Ecology (ECY) may be contacted to assist in resolving outstanding technical issues.

#### **Data Quality Objectives**

The goal of this program is to generate sufficient reliable data to detect trends in salmon habitat conditions in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands under Skagit County jurisdiction and compare those trends, if any, to those zoned lands under Skagit County jurisdiction outside of Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL.

#### <u>Bias</u>

Bias will be minimized by use of standardized procedures by a trained staff. Surveys will be conducted according to written procedures and instruments will be calibrated and operated according to manufacturer's instructions.

#### Precision

Precision will be estimated at two levels. The first level consists of estimates of precision (or uncertainty) with which the overall habitat condition of the Skagit County stream reaches are estimated. This uncertainty is estimated from the specific design applied to the selection of reaches and the spatial structure of the habitat indicators. Data will be summarized as a frequency distribution of metric scores; the uncertainty of this description will be approximately +/- 12% with a sample size of 60 sites; precision will likely be better if the habitat characteristics are spatially correlated.

The second level of precision will be estimated by resurveying ten percent (10%) of the total sampling reaches in each sampling year. Each resample survey will be conducted by a different sampling crew than conducted the original survey. Data collected from the resurvey will be compared with that published in Kaufmann, et al.(1999) to compare the precision of Skagit County's study with an expected precision for many of these habitat metrics. This level of precision depends not only on measurement precision but also on the variation in metrics within the interval chosen as the seasonal survey window.

The USEPA's EMAP program will assist in calculating the survey precision after the first year's data have been compiled. Once the first year survey precision calculations are complete, relative timeframes for detecting trends can be identified. Over time, refinement of the estimates occurs as the information about within year and between year variability increases (i.e., effective sample size for estimating these components increases).

#### Measurement Data Quality Objectives

Measurement data quality objectives (measurement DQOs or MQOs) for the Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program are given in Table 3. The MQOs given in Table 4 represent the maximum allowable criteria for statistical control purposes. Precision is determined from results of revisits by a different crew (field measurements) and by duplicate measurements by the same individual on a different day or by a different individual (map-based measurements).

The completeness objectives are established for each measurement *per site type* (e.g., EMAP sites, revisit sites). Failure to achieve the minimum requirements for a particular site type results in regional population estimates having wider confidence intervals. Failure to achieve requirements for repeat and annual site revisits reduces the precision of estimates of index period and annual variance components, and may impact the representativeness of these estimates because of possible bias in the set of measurements obtained.

Variable or Measurement	Precision	Accuracy	Completeness
Field Measurements and Observations	±10%	NA	100%
Map-Based Measurements	±10%	NA	100%

TABLE 4. MEASUREMENT DATA QUALITY OBJECTIVES: PHYSICAL HABITAT INDICATOR

NA = not applicable

Table 5 - Precision Of Physical Habitat Metrics For Quantitative Stream ChannelMorphology In The Mid-Atlantic Region And Oregon is a portion of a table from

Kaufmann et. al. (1999) detailing the Root Mean Square Error (RSME) associated with specific physical habitat metrics. For the purposes of Skagit County's study, the RSMEs represent a "worst case scenario" for the expected precision associated with the Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program. Further information on precision associated with other habitat metrics in the Mid-Atlantic Region and Oregon studies can be found in Section 4 of Kaufmann et. al. (1999).

# TABLE 5 - PRECISION OF PHYSICAL HABITAT METRICS FORQUANTITATIVE STREAM CHANNEL MORPHOLOGY IN THE MID-<br/>ATLANTIC REGION AND OREGON

	$RMSE = O_{REP}$	
CHANNEL MORPHOLOGY METRICS <sup>A</sup>	(IN units of metric)	
	MID-ATLANTIC	OREGON
XDEPTH – Thalweg Mean Depth (cm)	6.4	6.2
SDDEPTH- Thalweg Std. Deviation of depth (cm)	1.7	3.4
XWIDTH Mean Wetted Width (m)	0.93	0.89
SDWIDTH Std. Deviation of Wetted Width (m)	0.58	0.60
XWXD Mean Width- Depth Product (m <sup>2</sup> )	0.79	0.80
SDWXD Standard Deviation of Width- Depth Product (m <sup>2</sup> )	0.32	0.75
WD_RAT Mean ratio of Wetted Width to Thalweg Depth	6.8	2.6
SDWD_RAT Standard Deviation of Width- Depth Ratio	6.5	3.4
<b>Areasum</b> Residual Pool Vertical Profile Area $(m^2/ \text{ reach})$	4.6	7.6
<b>RP100</b> Mean Residual Depth (m <sup>2</sup> / 100m= cm)	1.6	2.2
<b>RPGT75</b> Number of Residual Pools with Depth > 75 cm (number/ reach)	0.60	0.98
<b>RPXAREA</b> Mean Residual Pool Vertical Profile Area (m <sup>2</sup> / pool)	0.69	1.0

<b>RPMDEP</b> Maximum Residual Depth of Deepest Pool in Reach (cm)	14	34
XINC_H Mean Incision Height (m)	0.38	0.76
XUN Mean Bank Lateral Undercut Distance (m)		0.025
XBF_H Mean Bankfull Height (m)	0.33	0.13
XBF_W Mean Bankfull Width (m)	1.7	1.1
XBKA Mean bank angle (degrees)	8.1	8.4
XSLOPE Mean Channel Gradient (%)	0.80	0.87
VSLOPE Std. Deviation of Channel Gradient (%)	0.40	0.66
SINU Channel Sinuosity	0.10	0.25

#### DATA ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

#### **QA/QC Process**

The Project Manager will review field data and notes to validate field techniques, calculate precisions, account for bias, and verify completeness. In addition, the reports will be reviewed and summarized annually during the project.

#### **Data Entry and Review**

Data will be entered into the Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Database. After entry in the database, printouts will be compared with field sheets to detect and correct data entry errors. For analysis, data will be exported to spreadsheets and reviewed to focus on parameters of interest. Trends will be tracked and analyzed using graphical formats and other tools as deemed appropriate. Because all of the field analyses are standard procedures major problems with quality control are not expected. Nevertheless, data reports will be reviewed regularly by the Project Manager.

#### Statistics

Statistical summaries will include frequency distributions for each of the major habitat attributes of interest along with the uncertainty estimates associated with these frequency distributions. For some habitat metrics, "criteria" that evaluate whether habitat is in good/poor condition will be used to evaluate what proportion of the stream network is in poor habitat condition (along with an estimated uncertainty associated with this proportion). The approximate uncertainty with which these proportions can be estimated

with sample sizes of 60 sites is approximately +/- 12%. For example, the survey might suggest that 30% +/- 12% of the stream network has excess fine sediment. Frequency distributions between the two classes of stream types will be compared to determine whether the distributions differ and whether one class is in poorer condition than the other.

At each five-year interval, these frequency distributions will be compared to assess whether a five-year change is detectable, and the magnitude of detectability. Over time, consistent change (trend) will be tracked. Because the sensitivity of both change detection and trend detection depend on spatial and temporal variation across the Skagit County stream network, they cannot be determined until data have been collected from this network. Research conducted in the EMAP program indicates that 1 - 2% trends in some key habitat features are detectable in 10 - 20 years with 80% likelihood if such trends actually occur.

#### DELIVERABLES

Map of all reaches surveyed

- Report detailing initial survey effort and associated baseline information Annual reports to assist with establishing salmon habitat trend analysis and adaptive management considerations pertaining to Skagit County Code 14.24.120, Ongoing Agriculture, as outlined in Skagit County Resolution #R20030210.
- Five-year reports detailing trends in habitat conditions in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands under Skagit County jurisdiction and a comparison of those trends, if any, to those zoned lands under Skagit County jurisdiction outside of Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL. The five-year reports will also be used to assist with adaptive management considerations as described above.

# SKAGIT BASIN STREAMS SURVEY DESIGN

Prepared by

Anthony (Tony) R. Olsen USEPA Western Ecology Division

# **Skagit Basin Streams Survey Design**

### **Contact:**

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### **Description of Sample Design**

**Objectives:** Skagit County will conduct a survey of physical channel and in-stream habitat conditions to document, quantify, and track salmon habitat conditions in the Skagit Watershed over time. To accomplish this end, the County will use Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) site selection protocols and procedures to select a representative set of sampling locations (stream reaches) where habitat conditions will be surveyed. The County will also primarily use EMAP survey protocols and procedures to conduct the habitat surveys; however, certain methods have been modified to increase the level of precision associated with this survey and to collect additional data.

The objectives of this effort are to establish a baseline of current general physical habitat conditions in WRIAs 3 & 4, determine whether habitat conditions are stable, improving or degrading over time, and provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat conditions in Agriculture-NRL & Rural Resource-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. This effort is in response to Skagit County

Resolution #R20030210, which specifies actions the County will take to ensure that Skagit County Code 14.24.120, Ongoing Agriculture, is adequately protecting critical areas on agricultural lands.

Specific objectives are:

- Establish a statistically valid baseline of the current general physical habitat conditions in WRIAs 3 & 4 during the first year of the project.
- Conduct additional habitat conditions monitoring in future years to be used to analyze trends in salmon habitat conditions over time.
- Determine whether habitat conditions are improving, degrading, or remaining static in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands.
- Provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat conditions in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction, as defined by the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan.

**Target Population:** Target population consists of all wadeable streams within Skagit County that are in areas affected by Skagit County Code 14.24.120, Ongoing Agriculture (Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands) and those outside of those zoning designations but still under County jurisdiction. These are further restricted to only those streams listed on the SHIAPP database as having salmon or the potential to have salmon. No survey work will occur outside of areas regulated by Skagit County (e.g. no sampling will occur in National Forest lands).

**Sample Frame**: Josh Greenberg, Skagit County GIS, provided the GIS coverage. Attribute INOUT is used to define two subpopulations of interest (those in Ag CAO and those outside those zoning designations). Those stream segments that are not coded as IN or OUT are excluded from the sample frame.

**Survey Design**: A Generalized Random Tessellation Stratified (GRTS) survey design for a linear stream resource was used. The GRTS design includes reverse hierarchical ordering of the selected sites.

**Stratification:** Two strata: those streams that are within the Ag CAO zoning designation and those streams which are outside the Ag CAO Zoning designation. Equal number of sites in each stratum.

#### Multi-Density Categories: None

**Panels:** Six panels. Panels "One" to "Five" will be visited once every five years with panel "One" being visited in year 1, panel "Two" in year 6, panel "Three" in year 11, etc. Panel "Annual" will have annual visits to the sites.

Sample Size: 220 stream sites: 40 each in panels "One" to "Five" and 20 in panel

"Annual". In each case expected number of sites in Ag CAO and outside Ag CAO should be equal.

**Oversample:** 100% over sample.

**Site Use:** The base design has 220 sites allocated to 6 panels. These sites are identified by panel name in the variable "Panel". If it is necessary for a site in any panel to be replaced, then the lowest ordered SiteID that is part of the oversample of sites (identified by "OverSamp" in variable "Panel") must be used. Subsequent replacement sites continue to be used in the same way.

### **Sample Frame Summary**

The total stream length in the GIS coverage is 794.907 km. The total stream length in the sampling frame that is in Skagit County study is 781.539 km with 243.258 km in the Ag CAO zoning designation and 538.281 km outside the Ag CAO zoning designation.

### **Site Selection Summary**

	Annual	Panel-1	Panel-2	Panel-3	Panel-4	Panel-5	OverSamp
IN	10	20	20	20	20	20	110
OUT	10	20	20	20	20	20	110

As noted above under the heading **Panel**, Panels "One" to "Five" will be visited once every five years with panel "One" being visited in year 1, panel "Two" in year 6, panel "Three" in year 11, etc. Panel "Annual" will have annual visits to the sites.

### **Description of Sample Design Output:**

To achieve an expected sample size of sites in the target population, an appropriate sample size was selected for the study area. A Base set of sites and an Oversample of sites are included in the output. The oversample sites should be added, as needed, in numerical SiteID order. Oversample sites are identified in the "panel" data column as Oversamp. Note that sites may be used in order beginning at the first SiteID number and continuing until desired sample size is reached.

A map of the stream network and the selected sites is given in the associated .pdf file labeled *SkagitDesign*.

Variable Name	Description
SiteID	Unique site identification (character)
arcid	Internal identification number

The tab-delimited, ASCII file (SkagitSites.tab) has the following variable definitions:

X	Albers x-coordinate
У	Albers y-coordinate
LonDD	Longitude, decimal degrees
LatDD	Latitude, decimal degrees
mdcaty	Multi-density categories used for unequal probability selection
weight	Weight (in meters), inverse of inclusion probability, to be used in statistical analyses
stratum	Strata used in the survey design
panel	Identifies base sample by panel name and Oversample by OverSamp
auxiliary variables	Remaining columns are from the sample frame provided

Albers projection used Spheroid: Clarke1866 Center longitude (decimal degrees): -96 Origin latitude (decimal degrees): 23 Standard parallel 1 (decimal degrees): 29.5 Standard parallel 2 (decimal degrees): 45.5

For further information about the design, contact Anthony (Tony) R. Olsen USEPA NHEERL Western Ecology Division 200 S.W. 35th Street Corvallis, OR 97333 Voice: (541) 754-4790 Fax: (541) 754-4716 email: Olsen.Tony@epa.gov

# LIST OF EMAP HABITAT VARIABLES

The metric list below is a subset of the EMAP habitat variables and only includes those most often used by EMAP.

# Variable	Туре	Len	Label
1 SITE ID	Char	15	Site ID
	Char	15	Sile ID Veen of visit
2 YEAK	Num	8	Year of visit
3 VISII NO	Num	8	Number identifying which visit this is
4 SAMPLED	Char	30	Sample status (PHab)
5 XBKA	Num	8	Bank Anglemean (degrees)
6 XUN	Num	8	Undercut DistanceMean (m)
7 XBKF-W	Num	8	Bankfull WidthMean (m)
8 XBKF H	Num	8	Bankfull Height-Mean (m)
9 XINC H	Num	8	Channel Incision HtMean (m)
10 XPCM-	Num	8	Riparian Canopy & Middle Layer Present
			(Fraction of reach)
11 XPCMG	Num	8	Riparian 3-Layers Present
			(Fraction of reach)
12 XCL	Num	8	Riparian Canopy $> 0.3$ m DBH (Cover)
13 X GB	Num	8	Riparian Ground Layer Barren (Cover)
14 XC -	Num	8	Riparian Vegetation Canopy cover
15 XG-	Num	8	Riparian Vegetation Ground Layer Cover
16 XCMW	Num	8	Riparian Vegetation Canopy+Middle Laver
			(Woody Cover)
17 XCMGW	Num	8	Riparian Vegegetation Canopy+Mid+Ground
			(Woody Cover)
18 PCAN C	Num	8	Riparian Canopy Coniferous
10101110	1 (0)111	U	(Fraction of reach)
19 XCDENBK	Num	8	Mean Bank Canopy Density (%)
20 XCDENMID	Num	8	Mean Mid-channel Canopy Density (%)
21 XEMBED	Num	8	Mean EmbeddednessChannel+Margin (%)
22 XEC ALG	Num	8	Fish Cover - Filamentous Algae (Areal Prop)
22  ALC	Num	8	Fish Cover-Agautic Macrophytes (Areal Prop)
23 ALC-AQM 24 YEC I WD	Num	8	Fish Cover Large Woody Debris (Areal Prop)
24 AFC-LWD 25 YEC BBS	Num	8	Fish Cover Brush & Small Woody Debris
25 AFC-DRS	InuIII	0	Tish Cover-Brush & Shian woody Debits
# Variable	Type	Len	Label (Areal Prop)
26 XFC-OHV	Num	8	Fish Cover-Overhanging Vegetation
			(Areal Prop)
27 XFC-UCB	Num	8	Fish Cover-Undercut Banks (Areal Prop)
28 XFC-RCK	Num	8	Fish Cover-Boulders (Areal Prop)

29 XFC-HUM	Num	8	Fish Cover-Artificial Structures (Areal Prop)
30 XFC-ALL	Num	8	Fish Cover-All Types (Sum Areal Prop)
31 XFC-NAT	Num	8	Fish Cover-Natural Types (Sum Areal Prop)
32 XFC-BIG	Num	8	Fish Cover-Large Woody Debris, Rock,
			Undercut Banks or Human Structures
			(Sum Area Prop)
33 W1-HALL	Num	8	Riparian DisturbanceSum of All Types
			(Proximity Weighted Presence)
34 W1-HNOAG	Num	8	Riparian DisturbanceSum of
			Non-Agricultural Types
			(Proximity Weighted Presence)
35 W1 HAG	Num	8	Riparian DisturbanceSum Agricultural Types
	1 ( 0111	U	(Proximity Weighted Presence)
36 W1H-WALL	Num	8	Riparian DisturbanceWall/Bank Revetment
	1 (um	0	(Proximity Weighted Presence)
37 W1H PIPE	Num	8	Riparian DisturbancePipes inflent/effluent
<i>57</i> W III II L	1 (um	0	(Proximity Weighted Presence)
38 I SUB DMM	Num	8	Substrate-Mean Log 10 (Diameter Class in mm)
39 I TEST	Num	8	L og 10 [Frodible Substrate Diameter (mm)]-
<i>57</i> E1E51	Ituili	0	Fast estimate
40 LRBS-TST	Num	8	Log 10 [Relative Bed Stability] - Fast estimate
41 I DMR RW5	Num	8	Log 10 [Frodible Substrate Diameter (mm)]-
	1 (um	0	Fst 2
42 LRBS-BW5	Num	8	Log 10 [Relative Bed Stability)-Est. 2
43 REACHLEN	Num	8	Length of sample reach (m)
44 X SLOPE	Num	8	Channel Slope—field-measured reach mean (%)
45 X DEPTH	Num	8	Thalweg Mean Depth (cm)
46 RPGT75	Num	8	Residual Pools >75cm deep (number/reach)
47 RPGT100	Num	8	Residual Pools >100cm deep (number/reach)
48 RPMXDEP	Num	8	Maximum residual depth in reach (cm)
49 RPXAREA	Num	8	Mean vertical profile area of Residual Pools
			(m2/pool)
50 RP100	Num	8	Mean Residual Depth (m~/100m)
51 LSUBD SD	Num	8	Substrate-Standard Deviation
			Log 10 (Diameter Class mm)
52 PCT-FN	Num	8	Substrate FinesSilt/Clay/Muck (%)
# Variable	Type	Len	Label (Areal Prop)
	• 1		
53 PCT-SA	Num	8	Substrate Sand06-2 mm (%)
54 PCT-HP	Num	8	Substrate Hardpan(%)
55 PCT-RC	Num	8	Substrate Concrete (%)
56 PCT-SAFN	Num	8	Substrate Sand & Fines<2 mm (%)
57 PCT-SFGF	Num	8	Substrate <= Fine Gravel «=16 mm) (%)
58 PCT-BIGR	Num	8	Substrate >- Coarse Gravel (>16 mm) (%)
59 PCT BDRK	Num	8	Substrate Bedrock (%)
60 PCT-ORG	Num	8	Substrate Wood or Detritus(%)

61 VIW MSQ	Num	8	Large Woody Debris Volume
			in Bankful Channel (m3/m2-all sizes)
62 V4W MSQ	Num	8	Large Woody Debris Volume
_			in Bankful Channel (m3/m2-L,X)
63 V1TM100	Num	8	Large Woody Debris Volume
			in or above Bankful Channel
			(#/100m-all sizes)
64 V4TM100	Num	8	Large Woody Debris Volume
			in or above Bankful Channel
			(#/100m-L,X)
65 SINU	Num	8	Channel Sinuosity (m/m)
66 SDDEPTH	Num	8	Standard Deviation of Thalweg Depth (cm)
67 XWIDTH	Num	8	Wetted WidthMean (m)
68 XWXD	Num	8	Mean Product of Width x Depth (m2)
69 XWD RAT	Num	8	Mean Ratio of Width/Depth (m/m)
70 SDWXD	Num	8	Standard Deviation of (Width x Depth) (m2)
71 PCT-FA	Num	8	Falls (% of reach)
72 PCT-FAST	Num	8	Fast Water Habitat (% riffle & faster)
73 PCT=SLOW	Num	8	Slow Water Habitat (% Glide & Pool)
74 PCT-POOL	Num	8	PoolsAll Types (% of reach)
75 PCT-DRS	Num	8	Dry Channel or Subsurface Flow (%)
76 PCT-SIDE	Num	8	Side channel presence (% of reach)

# **APPENDIX B**

#### TYPICAL SAMPLING DAY ACTIVITIES

The following is an example of a typical sampling day. Landowners were typically contacted a minimum of 48 hours in advance of an actual survey taking place.

#### Morning Set-Up

Prior to heading out to a site, equipment was inventoried to ensure that the crew had all of the equipment necessary to conduct the surveys and that said equipment was in working order.

#### Drive/hike to site

The crew traveled to the site. In many instances, due to the location of the sample site, it was necessary for the crew to hike into the sample site. In other cases, the sample site could be accessed by a nearby road.

#### Make contact with landowners

All landowners surrounding the sample site were contacted immediately prior to conducting the surveys to make sure they knew that the crew would be accessing their property.

#### Assess the site

The site was assessed to ensure that it could be safely surveyed. For example, some sites that were sampleable when originally previewed were determined to not be safe due to a change in flow levels stemming from recent rain events.

#### Establish X transect

The X or F transect (center point of the survey reach) was established using GPS coordinates, aerial photos, or other methods. Once the X transect was established, the wetted channel width was measured at that transect. Four additional wetted width measurements were taken in the immediate vicinity of the X transect to establish an averaged wetted width. This average wetted width was used to determine the stream length to be surveyed.

#### Set transect flags up and downstream of X site

The entire stream length to be surveyed was divided by 10 to determine the spacing between transects to be surveyed. Once this distance was established, flags designating transects A-K were set at equal intervals.

Data was recorded:

At each transect:

- a. Wetted width
- b. Bankfull width
- c. Bankfull height

Substrate Cross Sections at set intervals

- i. Distance from bank
- ii. Depths
- iii. Substrate size class
- iv. Embeddedness
- h. Canopy cover measurements (6 total)
- i. Fish cover
- j. Riparian Vegetation Cover
- k. Anthropogenic Influences

Between transects:

Thalweg profile

- i. 10-15 equally spaced measurements including:
  - 1. Depth
  - 2. Presence of soft/small sediment
  - 3. Channel unit code (pool, glide, riffle, rapid, etc.)
  - 4. If channel unit code was a pool, then a pool form code (way by which the pool was created) was recorded (wood, boulder, etc.)
  - 5. Presence/absence of a side channel
  - 6. Presence/absence of back water
- ii. At midpoint of profile a Substrate Cross Sections was taken
- iii. Each piece Large Woody Debris (LWD) with a minimal

large end of 0.1 meters and a minimum length of 1.5 meters was categorized into one of 24 categories.

Riparian legacy tree Presence of invasive species Slope Bearing Bank shape Bank stability Bank cover

For the entire site:

Location of sample site Width used to define the reach to be sampled Total reach length surveyed Stream discharge Evidence of torrents Temperature (one time reading) Channel constraints A general stream assessment including

- i. Watershed activities and disturbances observed
- ii. Site characteristics within a 200 meter radius
- iii. Weather
- iv. General written assessment of the site

Depending on the survey crew size, tasks were divided up as follows:

- 1. Two person survey crew
  - i. Transects were completed first
  - ii. Slope and bearing next
  - iii. Crew broke up:

The entire stream length to be surveyed was divided by 10 to determine the spacing between transects to be surveyed. Once this distance was established, flags designating transects A-K were set at equal intervals.

Data was recorded:

At each transect:

- a. Wetted width
- b. Bankfull width
- c. Bankfull height
- d. Incised height
- e. Bar width (if applicable)
- f. Bank angles
- g. Substrate Cross Sections at set intervals
  - i. Distance from bank
  - ii. Depths
  - iii. Substrate size class
  - iv. Embeddedness
- h. Canopy cover measurements (6 total)
- i. Fish cover
- j. Riparian Vegetation Cover
- k. Anthropogenic Influences

Between transects:

Thalweg profile

i. 10-15 equally spaced measurements including:

- 1. Depth
- 2. Presence of soft/small sediment

- 3. Channel unit code (pool, glide, riffle, rapid, etc.)
- 4. If channel unit code was a pool, then a pool form code (way by which the pool was created) was recorded (wood, boulder, etc.)
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- 6. Presence/absence of back water
- ii. At midpoint of profile a Substrate Cross Sections was taken
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- Riparian legacy tree Presence of invasive species Slope Bearing Bank shape Bank stability Bank cover

For the entire site:

- Location of sample site Width used to define the reach to be sampled Total reach length surveyed Stream discharge Evidence of torrents Temperature (one time reading) Channel constraints A general stream assessment including
  - i. Watershed activities and disturbances observed
  - ii. Site characteristics within a 200 meter radius
  - iii. Weather
  - iv. General written assessment of the site

Depending on the survey crew size, tasks were divided up as follows:

- 1. Two person survey crew
  - i. Transects were completed first
  - ii. Slope and bearing next
  - iii. Crew broke up:
    - 1. One completed legacy tree, bank stability, site verification, debris and torrent evidence, and channel constraint forms.
    - 2. Other completed flow measurements and forms.
- m. Three person survey crew
  - i. Crew broke into one pair and one individual
    - 1. Pair completed transects
    - 2. Individual completed legacy tree, bank stability, site verification, debris and torrent evidence, channel constraint, and flow measurements.

- ii. Crew re-grouped to complete slope and bearing
- n. Four person survey crew
  - i. Crew broke out into two pairs
    - 1. F site was established
    - 2. First pair would set flags downstream to transect A and then work upstream on the transects.
    - 3. Second pair would set flags upstream to transect K and then take slope and bearing measurements downstream to transect A
    - 4. Second pair would then split up
      - a. One completed legacy tree, bank stability, site verification, debris and torrent evidence, and channel constraint forms.
      - b. Other completed flow measurements and forms.
    - 5. When second pair had completed individual tasks, they would find the first pair. Then the remaining transects were divided between the two pairs. The second pair would typically start at the mid-point of the remaining transects (e.g. first pair has completed the G transect and is completing the thalweg profile between transects G & H. Thus transects H, I, J, and K still need to be surveyed. Second pair would begin surveying transect J and work through K while first pair works through transects H & I).

Crew leader verifies that all information on the forms is complete and makes sense.

Crew leader reviews all forms and initials ones that are complete. Any missing information is collected.

Flags are taken down and removed from site.

Site is left as it was found.

Crew heads back to the office.

# **APPENDIX C**

#### EQUIPMENT USED FOR THE SALMON HABITAT MONITORING PROGRAM

- 1- 50 meter tape
- 2- Clipboards
- 1- Top-setting wading rod
- 3- Stadia rods
- 1- Pigmy head
- 1- Flow meter
- 1- Utility tool
- 2- Vests
- 3- Pairs of gloves
- 2- Backpacks
- 2- Boxes of flagging
- 2- Clinometers
- 2- Densitometers
- 2- Compasses
- 6- Pairs of wading boots
- 6- Pairs of waders
- 2- Machetes and case
- 1- List of GPS locations
- 1- Crescent wrench
- 1- Vise grips
- 1- Screw driver
- 1- Roll duct tape
- 1- Tube of wader repair stuff
- 1- Stop watch
- 1- Hand pump
- 1- Salmon Habitat Monitoring Plan
- 1- Flow meter manual
- 1- EMAP protocols
- 1- Procedure manual for flow meter
- 1- GPS manual
- 2- Thermometers
- 1- First aid kit
- 1- Calculator
- 1- Camera manual
- 6- Pencils
- 3- Sharpies
- Misc: extra forms
- 1- Computer
- 1- GPS unit w/ case
- 1- Camera with case
- 1- Cell phone

2- Hand-held Radios

- 4- Rechargeable batteries with charger
- 1- 30 meters clear tubing (3/8" interior diameter)
  1- 16 meters clear tubing (3/8" interior diameter)
- 1- Neutrally buoyant object

# **APPENDIX D**

FORMS USED FOR THE SALMON HABITAT MONITORING PROGRAM:

SITE NAME:	DATE:		/	VISIT: 0 1 2 3		
SITE ID:	Doni	Don't forget to record Reach Length on back. TEAM:				
STREAM/R	RIVER VERIFIC	ATION IN FOR	MATION			
Stream/River Verified by (X all that apply): Other (Describe Here):	GPS	Local Contact	Signs Not Ve	Roads erified (Expla	Topo. Map in in Comments)	
Coordinates Latitude Nort	h	Longitude W	Vest	Type of GPS Fix	Are GPS Coordinates w/i 10 Sec. of map?	
Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds MAP OR Decimal Degrees				2D 3D	Yes	
GPS OR Decimal Degrees						
DID	YOU SAMPL	E THIS SITE	?			
YES If YES, check one below		NO	f NO, check one	e below		
SAM PLEABLE (Choose method used) Wadeable - Continuous water, greater than 50% wa	deable	NON-SAM PLEABLE-PERMANENT Dry - Visited				
Boatable Partial - Sampled by wading (Explain in comments)	,	Dry - Not visited Wetland (No Definable Channel) Map Error - No evidence channel/waterbody ever present				
Partial - Sampled by boat (Explain in comments)		Impounded (Underneath Lake or Pond)				
Wadeable Interrupted - Not continuous water along Boatable Interrupted - Not continuous water along Altered - Stream/River Present but not as on Map	reach reach	Other (explain in comments) NON -SAM P LEAB LE-TEMPORARY Not boatable - Need a different crew Not wadeable - Need a different crew				
GENERAL COMMENTS:		Other (E: NO ACCE Access F Permane Tempora	xplain in comment SS Permission Deniec ently Inaccessible irily Inaccessible-I	ts) I (Unable/Unsaf Fire, etc. (Expla	e to Reach Site) ain in comments)	

**STREAM VERIFICATION FORM - STREAMS/RIVERS** 

#### DIRECTIONS TO STREAM/RIVER SITE:

Record information used to define length of reach, and sketch general reach on reverse side.



Reviewed by (initial):

### STREAM VERIFICATION FORM - STREAMS/RIVERS (cont.)

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Rev	iewed	bу

<b>C</b>	те	ID.
- 31		ID:
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-	4	IV	
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STREAM/RIVER REACH DETERMINATION						
Channel Width Used to Define Reach (m)	Upstream Length	FROM X-SITE Downstream Length	DETERMINATION Total Reach Length Intended (m)	с	comment	
		SKETCH N	MAP - Arrow Indicates North			
			PERSONNEL			
		NAME		Biomorph	DUTIES Geomorph	Forms


			-	PHab: C	HANN	EL/RIPARIAN	I CROSS-S	ECTIO	N FOR	im - Streams	Reviewed by (	(Initials):	
<u>ு</u>	    			DA	[   			TRAN	SECT:	□ <b>A</b> □ <b>B</b> □ <b>C</b> □ □ □ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	D E E Z	-tra Side Channel	
SUBS	STRATE CI	ROSS-SECI	TIONAL IN	IFORMAT	lion	LICL	0 = Absent 1 = Sparse	(0%) (<10%)		VISUAL RIPARIAN	0 = Absent (0%) 1 = Snarse (<10%)	D = Deciduous C = Confiercue	
	Dist LB XX.XX m	Depth XXX cm	Size Class Code	Embed. 0-100%	Flag	COVER/	2 = Moderate 3 = Heavy 4 = Very Heavy	(10-40%) (40-75%) (>75%)		ESTIMATES	2 = Moderate (10- 3 = Heavy (40-75%	40%) E = Broadleaf Eve 6) M = Mixed	rgreen
Left						OTHER	circle	one)		RIPARIAN	4 = Very meavy (2	900N = N (%C).	
Ę						Filamentous Aldae				EGETATION COVER	Left Bank	Right Bank	Flag
ł									T	Vecetation Type		2	
3						Macrophytes	0 1 2 3	4		BIG Trees (Trunk			
RCtr						Voody Debris >0.3 m (BIG)	0123	4		>0.3 m DBH)	01234	0 1 2 3 4	
Right						Brush/Woody Debris <0.3 m (SMALL)	0 1 2 3	4		SMALL Trees (Trunk <0.3 m DBH)	01234	0 1 2 3 4	
SUBSTR	ATE SIZE CI	ASS CODES		Emp	ed. (%)	Live Trees or Roots	0	4		-	nderstory (0.5 to 5 m	high)	
RS = Bedi	rock (Smooth)	- (Larger than a c	car)		0	Overhanding Ved	-	r		Vegetation Type D	N N C	N N C C	
RC = Con	rock (Rough) - crete/Asphalt	. (Larger than a c	ar)		0	=<1 m of Surface	0 1 2 3	4		Woody Shrubs &	01234	0 1 2 3 4	
XB = Larg	le Boulder (100	0 to 4000 mm) -	(Meterstick to	) car) motomtiat/		Undercut Banks	0123	4		Non-Woody Herbs,	4	4 2 4 4	
CB = Cob	ble (64 to 250 n	nm) - (Tennis ba	I to Basketba	III)		Boulders	0 1 2 3	4		Grasses, & Forbs	round Cover (<0.5 m	high)	
GC = Coa GF = Fine	rse Gravel (16 Gravel (2 to 16	to 64 mm) - (Mar 1 mm) - (Ladybug	the to Tennis to marble)	ball)		Addinial Standards			T	Woody Shrubs	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	
SA = San FN = Silt /	d (0.06 to 2 mm Clav / Muck - (	<ul> <li>(Gritty - up to Not Gritty)</li> </ul>	Ladybug size	(a) 17	88			4		& sapiings Non-Woody Herbs,	- - -	7 7 7	
HP = Harc	Ipan - (Firm, Cu	onsolidated Fine	Substrate)		0					Grasses and Forbs	*	4 0 4	
WD = Wo OT = Othe	od - (Any Size) sr (Write comm	ent below)								Barren, Bare Dirt or Duff	01234	0 1 2 3 4	
			0		CINC C		CIDEMENTS		Γ		= Not Present P = >10 r	n C = Within 10 m B = On	Bank
	BANK ME	ASUKEMEN	0		CANC	PT COVER MEA	ASUREMENTS	0		INFLUENCE	Left Bank	Right Bank	Flag
	Bank Ang 0 - 360	Dist. (m)	Flag			DENSIOMETER (	0-17Max)	i		Wall/Dike/Revetment /Riprap/Dam	0 P C B	0 P C B	
Le	ų					Flag		Flag		Buildings	0 P C B	0 P C B	
Rigi	Ħ			ן נ 	eunb	3				Pavement/Cleared Lot	0 P C	8 0 0	
Wetted	Width XXX.3	E J		-	CenL	<b>_</b>	eft		<u> </u>	Road/Railroad	0 P C	0 P C B	
B	r Width XX.)	E		ŭ	nDwn	Ĩ	ght			Pipes (Inlet/Outlet)	0 P C B	0 P C B	
Bankfull	Width XXX.	E )								Landfill/Trash	0 P C B	0 P C B	
Bankful	I Height XX.)	E		Flag cc etc. = n	xdes: K = Si nisc. flag at	ample not collected; ssigned by field crev	U = Suspect sam v. Explain all flag	ple; F1, F2 js in comm	ent	Park/Lawn	0 P C	0 P C B	
Incised	I Height XX.)	E S		section	š					Row Crops	0 P C B	0 P C B	
	202					monto				asture/Range/Hay Field	0 P C B	0 P C B	
					5	SIIAI				Logging Operations	0 P C B	0 P C B	
299.										Mining Activity	0 P C B	0 P C B	
22									I 				

04/02/2002 2002 PHAB Chan/Riparian - Str

			ц Т	HAB:	THALM	/EG PR	SOFILE	& WC		DEBR	<b>RIS FORM</b>	<b>I STRE</b>	AMS Rev	viewed by (initia	al);	
	SITE ID:					DATE					TRAN	SECT: 0 F	<b>\-B</b> = B-C :-G = G-H	□ C-D □ D-E □ H-I □ I-J	а <b>Е-F</b> В <b>J-K</b>	
															-	
		THAL	WEG PRC	DFILE	eaer	ē	r Transect	A-B ONL	÷	Increme	ent (m) X.X:		Total Reach	l Length (m):		
STA- TION	THALWEG DEPTH (cm) (XXX)	WETTED WIDTH (m) (XXXX)	BAR W	XXX	SOFI SEDI- MENT	CHANNEL UNIT CODE	POOL FORM CODE	SIDE CHANNEL	BACK WATER	FLAG			COMMENTS			
0			Y N		X N			N Y	N X							
-			N Y		N >			N X	N ≻							
7			N Y		N >			X N	N ≻							
e			N Y		N >			N Y	v ≻							
4			z ≻		z ≻			N Y	× ≻							
°,			z ≻		z ≻			N Y	z ≻							
9			z ≻		z ≻			N Y	z ≻							
۲*			N Y		N >			Y N	z ≻							
œ			z ≻		z ≻			N Y	z ≻							
6			N X		N X			N X	N X							
-74			z >		z >			N X	N Y							
1			N Y		N X			Y N	N Y							
12			N Y		Y N			Y N	X N							
13			Y N		Y N			Y N	Y N							
4			z ≻		z >			N Y	N Y							
SUBS	Sta Sta	ition (5 or 7)	 5		CTR C	TR		<u>ج</u> م	LARGE	WOODY I nd diameter; ≥	DEBRIS 1.5 m length)	CHECK I BOXES	F UNMARKED	FLAG		
									METER	PIECES ALI	L/PART IN BANKFUL	T CHANNEL	PIECES BRIDO	SE ABOVE BANKFUL	LL CHANNEL	
FLAG	(7)	0	OMMENTS	(for SUBS	TRATE and	LWD)		۲ ۲		angth 1.5-5i	m 5-15m	>15m	Length 1.5-5m	- 5-15m	>15m	
								0.1	<0.3 m							
	SUBS	TRATE SIZE CL	ASS CODES	_	POOL FORM (	CODES CHAN	NEL UNIT CO	DES								
	RS = BEDROCK ( RR = BEDROCK ( RC = CONCRETE) XB = LG, BOULDE	(SMOOTH) - (LARGER (ROUGH) - (LARGER 'ASPHALT ER (1000 TO 4000 mm	t THAN A CAR) THAN A CAR) ) - METERSTICK TC	CAR)	V = Not a pool V = Large Woody C = Rootwad E Boulder or Bed	Debris PT -	= Pool, Plunge = Pool, Trench = Pool, Lateral Scol	ur 0.3-	-0.6 m							
	SB = SM. BOULDI CB = COBBLE (6. GC = COARSE G GF = FINE GRAVE	ER (250 TO 1000 mm) 4 TO 250 mm) - (TENI RAVEL (16 TO 64 mm EL (2 TO 16 mm) - (LA TO 2 mm) (CENTY	- BASKETBALL TO VIS BALL TO BASK )- (MARBLE TO TE DYBUG TO MARBL	METERSTICK)   GETBALL) ENNIS BALL) LE) LE)	= Unknown, fluvi :OMBINATIONS: 1g. WR, BR, WRB		= Pool, Impoundm = Gilde Riffie = Rapid	ent 0.6	m 8.0-							
	HP = SLT/ CLAY HP = HARDPAN - WD = WOOD - (N	/ MUCK - (NOT GRITT (FIRM, CONSOLIDAT NY SIZE)	Y) ED FINE SUBSTRA	Ì		ŠŽŠ	= Dry Channel	~	m 8.0							
	Flag Codes: K =	= no measureme	nt made; U = s	uspect meas	urement; F1, F	-2, ect. = flags	assigned by ea	ach field crev	w; G1, G2, €	stc. for flags r	not specific to one s	station. Explain			,	

04/03/2002 2002 Phab Thalweg Stream

all flags in comments. 1 = Measure Bar Width at Station 0 and Mid-Station (5 or 7).

PHab: SLOPE AND BEARING FORM - STREAMS

		SITE ID:			[	DATE:			т		
		Main (a	Ilways used	(	FIRST S	UPPLEMEN	<b>ITAL</b>	SECOND	SUPPLEME	ITAL	
TRANSECT Mark method for	& METHOD	Slope(%) or Elev. Diff. (cm) Mark Units for every Transect	BEARING 0 - 359	PROPOR- TION %	Slope(%) or Elev. Diff. (cm)	BEARING 0 - 359	PROPOR- TION %	Slope(%) or Elev. Diff. (cm)	BEARING 0 - 359	PROPOR- TION %	FLAG
	₽ ₽ ₽	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-
B C C C	₽□	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
	□ Other										
C < D C	L L L L L L L		-	-			-	- - -	1	1	-
	□ Other										
D < E	₽□		-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
	□ Other										
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	Other							- - -			
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F C C C C C C	₽₽		-	-		-	-	- - -	-	-	-
	□ Other	- 🗆 % 🗆 cm									
	FLAG				COMMENT						Д В
										$\rightarrow$	First Supple- mental
884											 Main
23											V,
Flag c 03/21	odes: K = { )/2003 200	Sample not collected; U 3 Phab Slope CL=Clir	J = Suspect sam nometer; HL=Ha	Iple; F1, F2, M ( Ind Level; LA=L	M = Method - used for -aser rangefinder with	method comme electronic clino	ent only) = flag a meter; TR=Tran	ssigned by field crew. sit, surveyors level or t	Explain all flag total station; W <sup>1</sup>	js in comment s T=Water Tubing	ections

				RIPARIA	N "LEGAC	<b>CALLER AND INVASIVE A</b>	<b>LIEN PLANTS</b>	Reviewed by (initial):	
		SITE ID:				DATE:			
		LARGEST	POTENTIAL	. LEGACY TR	EE VISIBLE	FROM THIS STATION	ALIEN PLANT SPECIE AND RIGHT RIP.	S PRESENT IN LEFT ARIAN PLOTS	525
Tran	Trees not Visible	HBU (m)	Height (m)	Dist. from wetted margin (m)	Type	Taxonomic Category	Check all that a	re present	
۲		□ 0-0.1 □ .75- □ .13 □ >2 □ .375	2   -<5   - 5-15   - 15-30   - 30		<ul> <li>Deciduous</li> <li>Coniferous</li> <li>Broadleaf</li> <li>Evergreen</li> </ul>		NONE Crass Salt Cerass None Cerass Carthia	d Hblack C s Teasel C Spurge R	3 Reed 3 Burd tus OI
B		□ 0-0.1 □ .75- □ .13 □ >2 □ .375	<b>2</b> 0 <5 0 5-15 0 15-30 0 >30		<ul> <li>Deciduous</li> <li>Coniferous</li> <li>Broadleaf</li> <li>Evergreen</li> </ul>		NONE CH Grass Cast Ceres None Ch Grass Cast Ceres None Cast Carthian Canthian Canthian Canthian Ch Grass Canthian Ch Gra	d 🗌 Hblack 🗌 G s 🗌 Teasel 🔤 C Spurge 🔤 R	3 Reed 3 Burd tus OI
ပ		□ 0-0.1 □ .75- □ .13 □ >2 □ .375	2   <pre>2   <pre>5 </pre> <pre>15 </pre> <pre>15 </pre> <pre>15 </pre> <pre>10 </pre> <pre>10 </pre> <pre>30 </pre></pre>		<ul> <li>Deciduous</li> <li>Coniferous</li> <li>Broadleaf</li> <li>Evergreen</li> </ul>		NONE CH Crass Cart Certer None Ch Crass Carthing Carthing Carthing Carthing Cart Carthing Ch Crass Carthing Ch Crass Cart Carthing Ch Ch Crass Carthing Ch	d 🗌 Hblack 🗌 G s 🗍 Teasel 🗍 C 🗌 Spurge 🔤 R	s Reed 3 Burd tus OI
76 -		INSTRUC	TIONS			TAXONOMIC CATEGORIES	ALIEN	SPECIES	
Mann Not &	in your s in you	egacy trees are de search area, which num limits as follow ble <u>Streams</u> : Confi eft and right bank a t (for K' look upstr <u>deable Rivers</u> : Co left and right bank nd downstream as s: Confine search <u>ble Streams</u> : 10 m <u>deable Rivers</u> : 10 n s are to be identifie Plant Identification	afined as the k is as far as yo ws: ws: ine search to r ine search to and extending far as you can to riparian plo to riparian plo to riparian plo to riparian plo to riparian plo	argest tree ou can see, but no more than upstream to al widths) o no more than g both i see is on left and its on left and . See Field	Acacia/ Alder/Bi Ash Maple/E Oak Vnknow Unknow Unknow Unknow Unknow Spruce Spruce Spruce Snag (D	Mesquite rch boxelder Cottonwood m or Other Deciduous Xpress/Sequoia Jaing Douglas fir and hemlock) n or Other Conifer n or Other Broadleaf Evergreen ead tree of any species)	RC GrassReed canarygrassEngl IvyEnglish ivyChGrassCheat grassChGrassCheat grassSalt CedSalt CedarCan ThisMusk thistleM ThisMusk thistleHblackHimalayan blackbiTeaselLeafy spurgeG ReedGiant reedC BurdCommon burdockRus OIRussian-oliveCommon burdockRussian-olive	Phalaris arun       Hedera helix       Hedera helix       Bromus tector       Bromus tector       Cirsium arven       Cirsium arven       Cirsium arven       Corduus nuta       Photos tector       Bromus tector       Corsium arven       Corsium arven       Corduus nuta       Photos tector       Brows tector       Corduus nuta       Proventi est       Arundo donax       Arctim minus       ENTS	dinacea um nr num gustifolia
Tra	nsect	ts D to K cont	tinued on	other side					

03/26/2001 2001 Riparian Legacy Trees

G Reed □ G Reed C Burd C Burd Rus Ol C Burd Rus Ol C Burd C Burd Rus Ol C Burd C Burd Rus Ol C Burd Rus Ol C Rus OI C Rus OI C Rus OI Reviewed by (initial): ALIEN PLANT SPECIES PRESENT IN LEFT Spurge Spurge Spurge □ Spurge Spurge □ Spurge □ Spurge Hblack □ Hblack Spurge Hblack Hblack Hblack □ Hblack Teasel Teasel Teasel 🗌 Teasel 🗌 Teasel Teasel 🗌 Teasel 🗆 Teasel **AND RIGHT RIPARIAN PLOTS** Check all that are present □ Salt Ced Salt Ced Salt Ced Salt Ced □ Salt Ced CanThis □ Salt Ced CanThis Salt Ced CanThis CanThis CanThis CanThis CanThis Salt Ced CanThis 🗌 M This 🗆 M This 🗆 M This 🗆 M This 🗆 M This 🗌 M This 🗆 M This 🗆 M This C Grass C Grass RC Grass Ch Grass C Grass C Grass C Grass Ch Grass C Grass C Grass Ch Grass Ch Grass Ch Grass Ch Grass Ch Grass Ch Grass RIPARIAN "LEGACY" TREES AND INVASIVE ALIEN PLANTS Engl Ivy 🗌 Engl Ivy 🗌 Engl Ivy Engl Ivy 🗌 Engl Ivy Engl Ivy 🗆 Engl Ivy Engl Ivy NONE NONE NONE NONE NONE NONE NONE NONE DATE: **Taxonomic Category ARGEST POTENTIAL LEGACY TREE VISIBLE FROM THIS STATION**  Deciduous
 Coniferous
 Broadleaf Coniferous Deciduous
 Coniferous Coniferous Broadleaf Evergreen Evergreen Coniferous Coniferous Broadleaf Evergreen Deciduous Coniferous Broadleaf Evergreen Deciduous Deciduous Coniferous Deciduous Evergreen Evergreen Evergreen Deciduous Evergreen Deciduous Broadleaf Broadleaf Broadleaf Type Dist. from wetted margin (m) □ 5-15 □ 15-30 □ 15-30 □ >30 □ 15-30 □ 15-30 □ 15-30 □ 15-30 □ 15-30 □ 15-30 □ <5 □ 5-15 □ <5 □ 5-15 Height 05-15 05-15 05-15 05-15 05-15 0 > 30 02 < 00 0>30 □>30 □ > 30 □ > 30 0>30 Ē □<5 □<5 □ <2 □ < □ < 5 □<5 .75-2 75-2 .75-2 .75-2 .75-2 .75-2 .75-2 .75-2 ~ ∼ ∼ 22 ⊼ 2 ⊼ 2 ⊼ 2 ⊼ 2 ∾ 2 SITE ID: (m BH .3-.75 .3-.75 3-.75 3-.75 0-0.1 .3-.75 3-.75 .3-.75 .1-.3 .1-.3 .1-.3 0-0.1 .1-.3 0-0.1 0-0.1 0-0.1 .1-.3 0-0.1 0-0.1 .1-.3 0-0.1 .1-.3 .1-.3 not Visible Trees Tran 77 Δ ш ш G Т 7 Y

2001 Riparian Legacy Trees 03/26/2001

.3-.75

22672

## CHANNEL CONSTRAINT AND FIELD CHEMISTRY - STREAMS/RIVERS

SITE ID:		DATE:	1	<i>I</i>	
IN SITU MEASUREMENTS		Station ID:		(Assume X	-site unless marke
		Comment	s		
STREAM/RIVER DO mg/I: (optional) .					
STREAM RIVER TEMP. (C):					
TIME OF DAY: :					
CHANNE	L CONSTR	AINT			
CHANNEL PATTERN (Check One)					
One channel					
Anastomosing (complex) channel - (Relativel	ly long majo	or and minor channels I	oranch	ning and r	ejoining.)
Braided channel - (Multiple short channels bra numerous mid-channel bars.)	nching and	rejoining - mainly one	chann	el broken	up by
CHANNEL CONSTRAINT (Check One)					
<ul> <li>Channel very constrained in V-shaped valley new channel during flood)</li> <li>Channel is in Broad Valley but channel mover flows do not commonly spread over valley floor</li> <li>Channel is in Narrow Valley but is not very c valley floor (&lt; ~10 x ban kfull width)</li> <li>Channel is Unconstrained in Broad Valley (i. spread out over flood plain, or easily cut new channel is in the spread out over flood plain.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li><i>i.e.</i> it is very ment by ero or into mult</li> <li><i>onstrained</i></li> <li><i>e.</i> during floating by experience</li> </ul>	ery unlikely to spread c sion during floods is <b>co</b> iple channels.) I, but limited in movem pod it can fill off-channe erosion)	ut ove onstra ent by el area	er valley o <b>iined by I</b> relatively as and sid	r erode a <b>ncision</b> (Flood narrow e channels,
CONSTRAINING FEATURES (Check One)					
Bedrock (i.e. channel is a bedrock-dominated gorge)					
Hillslope (i.e. channel constrained in narrow V-shaped	d valley)				
Terrace (i.e. channel is constrained by its own incision	n into river/s	tream gravel/soil depo	sits)		
Human Bank Alterations (i.e. constrained by rip-rap,	landfill, dike	e, road, etc.)			
No constraining features					
Percent of channel length with margin	%>	Percent	of	N	Examples
in feature:					
contact with constraining		4000/			
Bankfull width:	(m)	100%			
					100%
Valley width (Visual Estimated Average):	(m)				
Note: Be sure to include distances between both sides of valley border fo	r valley width.				
If you cannot see the valley borders, record the distance you can see and mark this box.		50 %			50%



#### Reviewed by (Initials):

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#### **TORRENT EVIDENCE ASSESSMENT FORM - STREAMS**

TORRENT EVIDENCE

SITE ID:

DATE:

. .**/**. . . .

1

	Please X any of the following that are evident.
EVIDE	ENCE OF TORRENT SCOURING:
	01 - Stream channel has a recently devegetated corridor two or more times the width of the low flow channel. This corridor lacks riparian vegetation with possible exception of fireweed, even-aged alder or cottonwood seedlings, grasses, or other herbaceous plants.
	02 - Stream substrate cobbles or large gravel particles are NOT IMBRICATED. (Imbricated means that they lie with flat sides horizontal and that they are stacked like roof shingles imagine the upstream direction as the top of the "roof.") In a torrent scour or deposition channel, the stones are laying in unorganized patterns, lying "every which way." In addition many of the substrate particles are angular (not "water-worn.")
	03 - Channel has little evidence of pool-riffle structure. (For example, could you ride a mountain bike down the channel?)
	04 - The stream channel is scoured down to bedrock for substantial portion of reach.
	05 - There are gravel or cobble berms (little levees) above bankfull level.
	06 - Downstream of the scoured reach (possibly several miles), there are massive deposits of sediment, logs, and other debris.
	07 - Riparian trees have fresh bark scars at many points along the stream at seemingly unbelievable heights above the channel bed.
	08 - Riparian trees have fallen into the channel as a result of scouring near their roots.
EVID	ENCE OF TORRENT DEPOSITS:
	09 - There are massive deposits of sediment, logs, and other debris in the reach. They may contain wood and boulders that, in your judgement, could not have been moved by the stream at even extreme flood stage.
	10 - If the stream has begun to erode newly laid deposits, it is evident that these deposits are "MATRIX SUPPORTED." This means that the large particles, like boulders and cobbles, are often not touching each other, but have silt, sand, and other fine particles between them (their weight is supported by these fine particles in contrast to a normal stream deposit, where fines, if present, normally "fill-in" the interstices between coarser particles.)
1	NO EVIDENCE:
	11 - No evidence of torrent scouring or torrent deposits.
	COMMENTS

### STREAM DISCHARGE FORM

Reviewed by (Initials):

	SITE ID:					DAT	е:/	<i>I</i>	
		V	elocity A	rea			🗌 Tir	ned Filling	
Dis ft	tance Units cm		Depth ft cm	Velocity ft/s XX.X	y Units m/s	Repeat	Volume (L)	Time (s)	Flag
	Dist. from B	<sup>Final me</sup> ank	asurement should Depth	be left bank.) Velocity	Flag	1	<u> </u>	··	
1		0				2	•	•	
2						3			
3						4			
4							<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
5						5	<u> </u>	·•	<u> </u>
6									
7							Neutral B	Ouyant Obje	Ct Float 3
8						Float Dist.			
9						Float Time			
10						(s)			
11						Flag			
12							Upper Section	Diddle Section	Lower Section
12						Width			
13						ft m	•	•	•
14						ft cm			
15						Depth 2			
16						_			
17						Depth 3			
18						Depth 4			
19						_			
20						Depth 5			
	Q Value		lf discharg	ge is determine	ed directly			<sup>3</sup> F	LAG

		1	
Flag	Comments		

Flag Codes: K = No measurement or observation made; U = Suspect measurement or observation; Q = Unacceptable QC check associated with measurement; Z = Last station measured (if not Station 20); F1, F2, etc. = Miscellaneous flags assigned by each field crew. Explain all flags in comments section.

#### STREAM ASSESSMENT FORM - STREAMS/RIVERS

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SITE ID:	
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### DATE:

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WATERSHED ACTIV	ITIES AND DISTURBANCES OB	SERVED	(Intensity: Blank=Not observe	d, L=Low, M=Moderate, H=Heavy)
Residential	Recreational	Agricultural	1	Stream Management
L M H <sup>Residences</sup> L M H Maintained Law L M H <sub>Construction</sub> L M H <sub>Pipes</sub> , Drains L M H <sub>Dumping</sub> L M H Roads L M H <sub>Bridge/Culverts</sub> L M H <sub>Sewage Treatm</sub>	L M H Hiking Trails L M H Parks, Campgrounds L M H Primitive Parks, Camping L M H Trash/Litter L M H Surface Films	L M H Cropland L M H Pasture L M H <sub>Livestock</sub> Use L M H Orchards L M H <sub>Poultry</sub> L M H <sub>Irrigation Equip.</sub> L M H <sub>Water Withdrawal</sub>	L M H Industrial Plants L M H <sub>Mines/Quarries</sub> L M H <sub>Oil/Gas</sub> Wells L M H Power Plants L M H <sub>Logging</sub> L M H Evidence of Fire L M H <sub>Odors</sub> L M H Commercial	L M H Liming L M H Chemical Treatment L M H <sub>Angling</sub> Pressure L M H <sub>Dredging</sub> L M H Channelization L M H Water Level Fluctuations L M H <sub>Fish</sub> Stocking L M H Dams
	SITE CHA	RACTERISTICS (200 m	radius)	
Waterbody Character	Pristine Appealing	5 4 5 4	3         2         1           3         2         1	Highly Disturbed Unappealing
Beaver	Beaver Signs Beaver Flow Modifications	s: Absent 5: None	Rare Commo Minor Major	n
Dominant Land Use	Dominant Land Use Forest 'X' Around Class	Agriculture 25 - 75 yrs.	Range Urban > 75 yrs.	Suburban/Town
WEATHER				

#### GENERAL ASSESSMENT (Biotic integrity, Vegetation diversity, Local anecdotal information)



norionou by (initial).
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SITE ID:		DATE:	1
	GENERAL ASSESS	MENT (continued)	



			Shape						Stab	ilty	Ī	7	긔
TRANSECT	Undercut		Steep (>30%)	Gradu	al (<30%)	0	s		2	n	S		2
	-		R	-	æ	-	œ	-	æ	-	R	L	
A+B													
DT B													
9													
шł													
ЧГF													
9TL									0				
H+9													
Ŧ													
7													
¥		_											
				0	over								
TRANSECT	Conifer		Deciduous	S	hrub	Grass	s/Fern	Other (lawn,	boulder, bare)		No	tes	
	4		L R	-	ĸ	-	¥	-	æ				
A+B													
UT B													
910													
۳.													
ш													
5 T													
HT 5													
Ŧ													
7													
¥Ţ													
(EY; evergreens 1 = Hemlock	Decid A = Al	uous der	Invasive: C = Cana	s ry Grass									
S = Sitka Spr Red Ced	uce W=V	VIIOW	B = Black	themy acta (finalwoo									

Phab: Bank Stability - Stream

## APPENDIX E MAP OF SAMPLE SITES

Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program: 2004/2005 Survey Sites



## **APPENDIX F**

List of Sample Sites Ag/RR-NRL Zoning

Site	Stratum	Panal	Zoning	Active	Sample	Quad	Latituda	Longitudo	Stream Nama		Pasin
Number	Stratum	Paner	Zoning	Ag	Date	Coordinates	Latitude	Longitude	Stream Name		Basin
3	Ag	Annual	A	No	8/19/2004	T35 R05 S17	48.52084	-122.1974	Hansen Creek	3.0267	Skagit
6	Ag	Annual	А	Yes	8/3/2004	T35 R04 S18	48.52601	-122.33811	Thomas Creek	3.0010	Samish
9	Ag	Annual	A	No	9/1/2005	T35 R04 S36	48.569066	-122.24621	Samish River	3.0005	Samish
15	Ag	Year 1	A	Yes	8/12/2005	T35 R03 S14	48.518187	-122.36611	Samish River	3.0005	Samish
17	Ag	Year 1	RR	No	6/30/2004	T35 R11 S06	48.54579	-121.42115	Taylor Channel	N/A	Skagit
18	Ag	Year 1	A	Yes	8/4/2004	T35 R04 S10	48.53014	-122.28037	Thomas Creek	3.0010	Samish
21	Ag	Year 1	A	Yes	8/26/2004	T35 R05 S14	48.52468	-122.12909	Wiseman Creek	3.0280	Skagit
28	Ag	Year 1	RR	Yes	9/1/2004	T36 R03 S27	48.57571	-122.40418	Colony Creek	1.0648	Samish
111	Ag	Over sample	RR	No	8/10/2004	T33 R05 S17	48.34854	-122.20037	Lake Creek	3.0258	Skagit
119	Ag	Over sample	A	Yes	8/18/2004	T35 R04 S16	48.5271	-122.30573	Thomas Creek	3.0010	Samish
124	Ag	Over sample	А	No	8/6/2004	T35 R06 S16	48.52853	-122.03953	Mannser Creek	3.0339	Skagit
125	Ag	Over sample	A	Yes	8/23/2004	T35 R15 S17	48.51604	-122.19596	Hansen Creek	3.0267	Skagit
127	Ag	Over sample	А	No	8/24/2005	T36 R04 S28	48.577096	-122.29537	Samish River	3.0005	Samish
128	Ag	Over sample	A	Yes	6/21/2005	T36 R05 S21	48.505224	-122.17662	Un-named Trib to Black's Slough	N/A	Skagit
131	Ag	Over sample	А	No	9/13/2005	T36 R05 S21	48.501822	-122.18032	Skiyou Slough	3.0278	Skagit
133	Ag	Over sample	A	No	9/27/2004	T35 R06 S15	48.5295	-122.02406	Red Cabin Creek	3.0343	Skagit
135	Ag	Over sample	А	Yes	6/8/2005	T36 R05 S17	48.52551	-122.18917	Tributary to Red Creek	3.0268	Skagit
139	Ag	Over sample	RR	No	9/10/2004	T33 R05 S19	48.33812	-122.20718	Lake Creek	3.0258	Skagit
141	Ag	Over sample	А	No	8/1/2005	T36 R06 S20	48.508633	-122.05401	Day Creek	3.0299	Skagit
142	Ag	Over Sample	A	Yes	7/20/2005	T35 R05 S07	48.358406	-122.20704	Lake Creek	3.0258	Skagit
144	Ag	Over sample	RR/ SF	No	9/22/2004	T35 R05 S36	48.48719	-122.10281	Sorenson Creek	3.0291	Skagit

149	Ag	Over sample	А	No	8/7/2005	T35 R05 S25	48.496598	-122.10976	Sorenson Creek	3.0291	Skagit
150	Ag	Over sample	A	No	9/13/2004	T35 R04 S03	48.55672	-122.28675	Trib to the Samish	3.0053	Samish
153	Ag	Over sample	A	No	9/28/2004	T35 R16 S19	48.50518	-122.09191	Morgan Creek	3.0293	Skagit
159	Ag	Over sample	A	Yes	6/16/2005	T36 R04 S24	48.592575	-122.239	Vernon Creek	3.0062	Skagit
164	Ag	Over sample	A	Yes	7/15/2005	T36 R04 S06	48.631418	-122.35617	Friday Creek	3.0017	Samish
165	Ag	Over sample	A/ RRc	No	8/11/2005	T36 R04 S27	48.582167	-122.27977	Samish River	3.0050	Samish
169	Ag	Over sample	RRc	No	9/28/2005	T33 R05 S19	48.426665	-122.20745	Mundt Creek	3.0235	Skagit
231	Ag	Over sample	A	Yes	9/7/2004	T35 R04 S15	48.52465	-122.27208	Wollard Creek	1.0648	Samish

**Appendix F:** List of sites under Agriculture or Rural Resource zoning that were surveyed during the 2004-2005 sampling period.

# **APPENDIX G**

List of Sample Sites under Non-Ag Zoning

Site Number	Stratum	Panel	Zoning	Active Ag	Sample Date	Quad Coordinates	Latitude	Longitude	Stream Name	WRIA ID	Basin
221	Non-Ag	Annual	RRv	No	9/15/2005	T36 R04 S8	48.62098	-122.325	Trib to Butler	3.0019	Samish
222	Non-Ag	Annual	RRV	No	9/2/2004	T35 R10 S29	48.49475	-121.546	Sutter Creek	4.1345	Skagit
223	Non-Ag	Annual	SF	No	6/24/2004	T34 R09 S11	48.45074	-121.606	Un-named trib to the Sauk	4.0683	Sauk/ Skagit
225	Non-Ag	Annual	RRV	No	7/12/2004	T33 R04 S32	48.3007	-122.333	Kennel Creek	3.2952	Skagit
226	Non-Ag	Annual	RRV	No	8/5/2004	T36 R03 S01	48.63915	-122.36	Friday Creek	3.0017	Samish
228	Non-Ag	Annual	SF/ RRV	No	8/8/2005	T36 R06 S09	48.536085	-122.045	Jones Creek	3.0332	Skagit
230	Non-Ag	Annual	IF	No	6/17/2004	T36 R03 S14	48.60721	-122.395	Whitehall Creek	N/A	Independent
232	Non-Ag	Year 1	IF	No	7/20/2004	T35 R11 S29	48.48593	-121.405	Jordan Creek	4.1412	Cascade/ Skagit
233	Non-Ag	Year 1	RRV	No	6/28/2004	T35 R04 S06	48.54783	-122.335	Samish River	3.0005	Samish
235	Non-Ag	Year 1	IF	No	6/21/2004	T36 R03 S15	48.60734	-122.405	Whitehall Creek	N/A	Independent
236	Non-Ag	Year 1	IF	No	6/23/2004	T36 R 08 S28	48.57491	-121.775	Grandy Creek	4.0377	Skagit
238	Non-Ag	Year 1	IF	No	8/12/2004	T36 R07 S30	48.57852	-121.944	Trib to Alder Creek	3.0362	Skagit
242	Non-Ag	Year 1	IF	No	6/22/2004	T35 R08 S20	48.50805	-121.802	Lower Finney Creek	4.0392	Skagit
245	Non-Ag	Year 1	RRV	No	8/9/2004	T35 R05 S06	48.55758	-122.21	Hansen Creek	3.0267	Skagit
246	Non-Ag	Year 1	SF	No	7/13/2004	T35 R07 S23	48.51019	-121.873	No Name (Savage Creek)	4.0384	Skagit
247	Non-Ag	Year 1	SF	No	9/3/2004	T35 R06 S09	48.53466	-122.032	Mannser Creek	3.0339	Skagit
335	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	8/11/2004	T35 R08 S20	48.50684	-121.793	Finney Creek	4.0392	Skagit
336	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	10/26/2004	T34 R10 S8	48.44339	-121.545	Hilt Creek	4.0678	Sauk/ Skagit
337	Non-Ag	Over Sample	RRV	No	7/23/2004	T36 R04 S30	48.58206	-122.34	Friday Creek	3.0017	Samish
339	Non-Ag	Over Sample	UGA	Yes	7/22/2004	T34 R04 S32	48.39839	-122.326	Maddox Creek	3.297	Skagit
340	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	7/29/2004	T35 R07 S23	48.50564	-121.861	Trib to Savage Creek	4.0384	Skagit
341	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	8/27/2004	T35 R 06 S02	48.55132	-122.004	Trib to Red Cabin Creek	3.0347	Skagit

342	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	9/8/2004	T35 R06 S31	48.48373	-122.071	Trib to Morgan Creek	3.293	Skagit
343	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	8/17/2004	T36 R08 S21	48.59864	-121.774	No Name	4.0475	Independent
345	Non-Ag	Over Sample	RRV	No	8/24/2004	T33 R04 S29	48.3221	-122.318	Fisher Creek	3.0181	Skagit
347	Non-Ag	Over Sample	RI	No	9/19/2005	T33 R04 S21	48.337417	-122.298	Bulson Creek	3.198	Skagit
354	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	9/21/2004	T36 R06 S32	48.563	-122.049	Jones Creek	3.0332	Skagit
355	Non-Ag	Over Sample	RRV	No	8/31/2005	T36 R03 S24	48.588341	-122.367	Colony Creek	1.0648	Independent
359	Non-Ag	Over Sample	IF	No	9/5/2005	T36 R07 S10	48.620314	-122.749	Bear Creek	3.0470	Baker/ Skagit
365	Non-Ag	Over Sample	UGA/ URP-OS	No	6/15/2005	T35 R05 S18	48.528398	-122.209	Northern State (Brickyard Creek Trib)	3.0266	Skagit

**Appendix G:** List of sites under other zonings (Non-Ag or RR) that were surveyed during the 2004-2005 sampling period.