Worksheet 19. Modified Pfankuch Channel Stability Rating Procedure Summary

Stream: _____ Reach: _____ Date: _____ Observers: _____ Comments: _____

Location	Key	Category	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor	
			Description	Rating	Description	Rating	Description	Rating	Description	Rating
Upper Banks	1	Landform Slope	Bank slope gradient <30%.	2	Bank slope gradient 30-40%.	4	Bank slope gradient 40-60%.	6	Bank slope gradient 60%+.	8
	2	Mass Wasting	No evidence of past or future mass wasting.	3	Infrequent. Mostly healed over. Low future potential.	6	Frequent or large, causing sediment nearly year long.	9	Frequent or large, causing sediment nearly yearlong OR imminent danger of same.	12
	3	Debris Jam Potential	Essentially absent from immediate channel area.	2	Present, but mostly small twigs and limbs.	4	Moderate to heavy amounts, mostly larger sizes.	6	Moderate to heavy amounts, predominantly larger sizes.	8
	4	Vegetative Bank Protection	90%+ plant density. Vigor and variety suggest a deep, dense soil binding root mass.	3	70-90% density. Fewer species or less vigor suggest less dense or deep root mass.	6	50-70% density. Lower vigor and fewer species from a shallow, discontinuous root mass.	9	<50% density plus fewer species & less vigor indicating poor, discontinuous, and shallow root mass.	12
Lower Banks	5	Channel Capacity	Ample for present plus some increases. Peak flows contained. W/D ratio <7.	1	Adequate. Bank overflows are rare. W/D ratio = 8-15.	2	Barely contains present peaks. Occasional overbank floods. W/D ratio = 15-25.	3	Inadequate. Overbank flows common. W/D ratio > 25.	4
	6	Bank Rock Content	65%+ w/ large angular boulders. 12"+ common.	2	40-65%. Mostly boulders and small cobbles 6-12".	4	20-40%. With most in the 3-6" diameter class.	6	<20% rock fragments of gravel sizes, 1-3" or less.	8
	7	Obstructions to Flow	Rocks and logs firmly imbedded. Flow pattern w/o cutting or deposition. Stable bed	2	Some present causing erosive cross currents and minor pool filling. Obstructions fewer and less firm.	4	Moderately frequent, unstable obstructions move with high flows causing bank cutting and pool filling.	6	Frequent obstructions and deflectors cause bank erosion yearlong. Sediment traps full, channel migration occurring.	8
	8	Cutting	Little or none. Infrequent raw banks <6".	4	Some, intermittently at outcurves and constrictions. Raw banks may be up to 12".	6	Significant. Cuts 12-24" high. Root mat overhangs and sloughing evident.	12	Almost continuous cuts, some over 24" high. Failure of overhangs frequent.	16
	9	Deposition	Little or no enlargement of channel or point bars.	4	Some new bar increase, mostly from coarse gravel.	8	Moderate depostion of new gravel and coarse sand on old and some new bars.	12	Extensive deposit of predominantly fine particles. Accelerated bar development.	16
Bottom	10	Rock Angularity	Sharp edges and corners. Plane surfaces rough.	1	Rounded corners and edges, surfaces smooth, flat.	2	Corners and edges well rounded in 2 dimensions.	3	Well rounded in all dimensions, surfaces smooth.	4
	11	Brightness	Surfaces dull, dark or stained. Generally not bright.	1	Mostly dull, but may have <35% bright surfaces.	2	Mixture dull and bright, ie 35-65% mixture range.	3	Predominantly bright, 65%+, exposed or scoured surfaces.	4
	12	Consolidation of Particles	Assorted sizes tightly packed or overlapping.	2	Moderately packed with some overlapping.	4	Mostly loose assortment with no apparent overlap.	6	No packing evident. Loose assortment, easily moved.	8
	13	Bottom Size Distribution	No size change evident. Stable material 80-100%.	4	Distribution shift light. Stable material 50-80%.	8	Moderate change in sizes. Stable materials 20-50%.	12	Marked distribution change. Stable materials 0-20%.	16
	14	Scouring and Deposition	<5% of bottom affected by scour or deposition.	6	5-30% affected. Scour at constrictions and where grades steepen. Some deposition in pools.	12	30-50% affected. Deposits and scour at obstructions, constrictions and bends. Some filling of pools.	18	More than 50% of the bottom in a state of flux or change nearly yearlong.	24
	15	Aquatic Vegetation	Abundant growth moss-like, dark green perennial. In swift water, too.	1	Common. Algae forms in low velocity and pool areas. Moss here, too.	2	Present but spotty, mostly in backwater. Seasonal algae growth makes rocks slick.	3	Perrenial types scarce or absent. Yellow-green, short term bloom may be present.	4
			Excellent Total =		**Good Total =**		**Fair Total =**		**Poor Total =**	

Stream Type	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	D3	D4	D5	D6
Good (Stable)	38-43	38-43	54-90	60-95	60-95	50-80	38-45	38-45	40-60	40-64	48-68	40-60	38-50	38-50	60-85	70-90	70-90	60-85	85-107	85-107	85-107	67-98
Fair (Mod. unstable	44-47	44-47	91-129	96-132	96-142	81-110	46-58	46-58	61-78	65-84	69-88	61-78	51-61	51-61	86-105	91-110	91-110	86-105	108-132	108-132	108-132	99-125
Poor (Unstable)	48+	48+	130+	133+	143+	111+	59+	59+	79+	85+	89+	79+	62+	62+	106+	111+	111+	106+	133+	133+	133+	126+

Stream Type	DA3	DA4	DA5	DA6	E3	E4	E5	E6	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
Good (Stable)	40-63	40-63	40-63	40-63	40-63	50-75	50-75	40-63	60-85	60-85	85-110	85-110	90-115	80-95	40-60	40-60	85-107	85-107	90-112	85-107
Fair (Mod. unstable	64-86	64-86	64-86	64-86	64-86	76-96	76-96	64-86	86-105	86-105	111-125	111-125	116-130	96-110	61-78	61-78	108-120	108-120	113-125	108-120
Poor (Unstable)	87+	87+	87+	87+	87+	97+	97+	87+	106+	106+	126+	126+	131+	111+	79+	79+	121+	121+	126+	121+

Grand Total =

Stream Type =

Modified Channel Stability Rating =