

## Standard Checklist

Name of Riparian-Wetland Area: Conejo Creek - Intermittent cattle creek

Date: July 21, 2004 Segment/Reach ID: Reach 2 PFC 152

Miles: \_\_\_\_\_ Elevation: 1491 ft GPS: N 36, 23. 615' W 121, 34. 601'

ID Team Observers: Danica Zupic, Ben Eichorn Time: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

## Summary Determination

### Functional Rating:

Proper Functioning Condition  
Functional—At Risk  
Nonfunctional  
Unknown

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

### Trend for Functional—At Risk:

Upward  
Downward  
Not Apparent

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

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

Yes   
No

If yes, what are those factors?

<input type="checkbox"/> Flow regulations	<input type="checkbox"/> Mining activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Upstream channel conditions
<input type="checkbox"/> Channelization	<input type="checkbox"/> Road encroachment	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil field water discharge
<input type="checkbox"/> Augmented flows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) <u>Cattle encroachment</u>	



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3

### Remarks

This reach begins at a large fallen tree at GPS: N 36, 23.615, W 121, 34.601.

This area has been extremely degraded by cattle, unstable dirt roads and trails, and a summer dam used for cattle watering (Picture 1). There is cattle dung in the creek bed throughout this reach.

There is extreme sediment deposition, never more shallow than 8 inches deep. No cobbles or boulders are visible in the creek bed (Picture 2).

There are multiple instances of undercutting in the reach (Picture 3).

There is no understory in many areas, and where there is vegetation it is predominated by upland species. Vegetation becomes more dense toward the end of the reach where there is less cattle impact (Picture 4).

Two tributaries join Conejo Creek in this reach.

This reach ends behind residences on the SE side of Tassajara Road, at GPS: N36, 23.694, W121, 34.780.

### Checklist Comments

#3, 15 The sinuosity, width/depth ratio, and gradient are not apparently in balance with the landscape setting as much of the area has been trampled by cattle.

#4, 6-12, 14 The only riparian wetland species prevalent in this area were mature willows. They appear vigorous, however there are very few recruits.

#5, 16, 17 There is extreme sediment deposition and erosion throughout this reach due to intense cattle impact and upland degradation.



Picture 4