Standard Checklist

Name of Riparian-Wetland Area: Robinson Canyon Creek

Date: June 25, 2004 Segment/Reach ID: Reach 10 PFC 201

Miles: _____ Elevation: 105 ft. GPS: N 36, 31.077' W 121, 48.717'

ID Team Observers: Clive Sanders, Danica Zupic Time: 10:30 am

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	☐

Trend for Functional—At Risk:

Upward	☐
Downward	☒
Not Apparent	☐

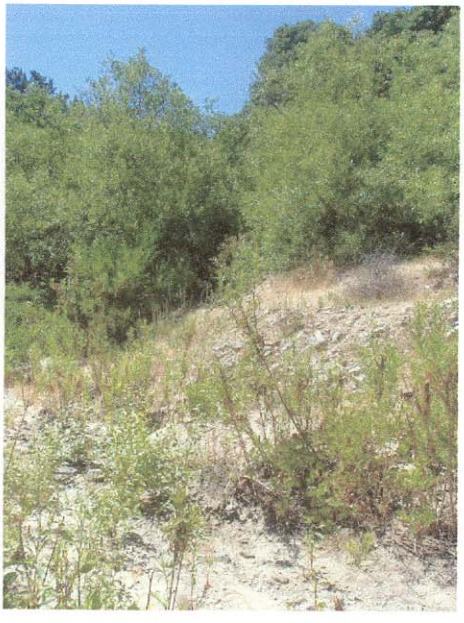
Are factors contributing to unacceptable conditions outside the control of the manager?

Yes	☐
No	☒

If yes, what are those factors?

☐ Flow regulations	☐ Mining activities	☐ Upstream channel conditions
☐ Channelization	☐ Road encroachment	☐ Oil field water discharge
☐ Augmented flows	☐ Other (specify)_____	

Picture 1



Picture 2

Picture 3

Remarks

There is an excess of sediment throughout the reach. The creek bed is covered in sand with a few large rocks, and a section of bedrock incising (See Pictures 1, 2, 5 and 6). There are very few cobbles seen in this reach. There are large piles of fines that only seem to be revegetating; the new willows are growing from the remnant root systems of willow trees that had been cut down a few years ago. The creek banks on this reach are terraced, and the northeastern bank resembles a berm with sizable channel running behind it (See Pictures 1 and 2).

The vegetation is minimally diverse in its age-class and composition. The riparian wetland vegetation found was composed of willows, alders and buckeyes. Many of these had yellowing leaves and are brittle (See Picture 7) . There are no grasses, sedges or bushes. There are a few older tree recruits present but there are no bush or sedge recruits. Many upland species were found directly on the creek bank, including monkey flower, genista and many upland grasses.

There are banks eroding with trees becoming undercut (See Pictures 8 and 9). Much of the bankfull behind houses in the area was built up and abutted with rocks after the 1998 flood.

There were pieces of scrap metal, a loose telephone cable hanging from the pole above (See Pictures 3 and 4).
End at N 36,31.122 W 121,48.746 the confluence with the Carmel River.

Checklist Comments

#1, 8 The floodplain is very high in places, and even the places with a lower bankfull are not frequently inundated, as evidenced by wilting willows, buckeyes and the absence of grasses.

#3 The width depth ratio is inconsistent with the region's other creek banks and beds. The banks are terraced or sheer, the creek becomes very wide and then narrows prior to the confluence.

#5,17 There is excess sediment throughout the creek.

#6 There is a minimum of age-class diversity.

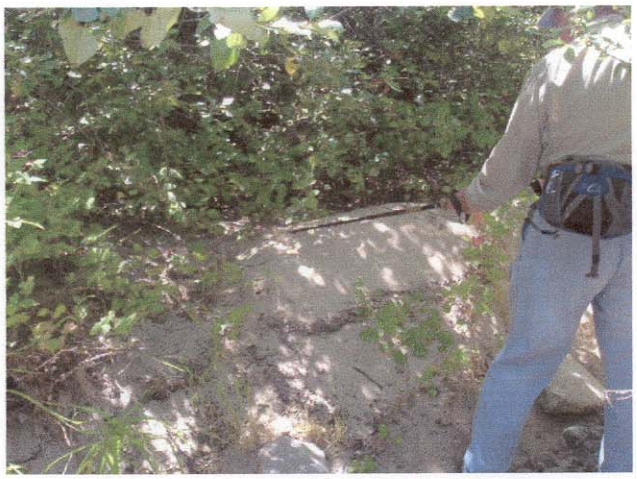
#7 There is not a great diversity of plants, most of the vegetation is composed of trees.

#9, 11 There is a minimum of vegetation that is effective to dissipate energy as many of the trees are small, there are few recruits and grasses, many upland species present and many spots are void of vegetation.

#12 There is not sufficient LWD or sources of LWD present.

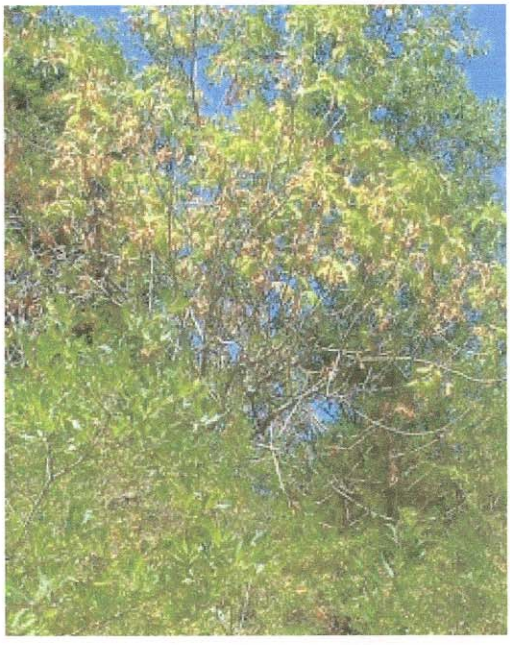
#14 Point Bars are not revegitating.

Picture 4



Picture 5

Picture 6



Picture 7

Picture 8

Picture 9