Workshop Lotic Checklist

STEP 1: In the larger group, the experienced interdisciplinary team determines potential using pertinent information (understanding of riparian-wetland function, review of references, review of existing files, reference areas when available, historical information, soils information, hydrology information, catchment/watershed information, interviews, etc.).
STEP 2: In the larger group, the experienced interdisciplinary team determines capability if applicable.

Potential: Document as much detail as possible on the interdisciplinary team's determination of potential =" the highest ecological status given no political, social or economical constraints."
Capability: Document as much detail as possible on the interdisciplinary team's determination of capability – "the highest ecological status an area can attain given political, social, or economical constraints." Capability only apples to constraints that the land manager(s) cannot eliminate or change through a management action within their authority.

STEP 3: You have been broken into small groups and a facilitator has been assigned. Introduce yourselves to each other. Facilitator chooses a recorder and spokesperson for the group.
STEP 4: Fill out header information.

Name of Riparian-Wetland Area:			
Date:		Segment/Reach ID:	
ID Team Observers:			

STEP 5: Go through the checklist and answer whether each item is in a working order relative to the minimum conditions required for the area to function properly. For any item marked "no," the severity of the condition must be explained. Include remarks on what the visual indicators were and what information was used to answer each item.

TR 1737-15 page #	Yes	No	N/A	HYDROLOGICAL
26				1) Floodplain above bankfull is inundated in "relatively frequent" events
28				2) Where beaver dams are present are they active and stable
29				3) Sinuosity, width/depth ratio, and gradient are in balance with the landscape setting (i.e., landform, geology, and bioclimatic region)
31				4) Riparian-wetland area is widening or has achieved potential extent

32				5) Upland watershed is not contributing to riparian-wetland degradation

TR 1737-15 page #	Yes	No	N/A	VEGETATION
36				6) Diverse age-class distribution of riparian-wetland vegetation (recruitment for maintenance/recovery)
38				7) Diverse composition of riparian-wetland vegetation (for maintenance/recovery) *(what species are present?)*
39				8) Species present indicate maintenance of riparian-wetland soil moisture characteristics
40				9) Streambank vegetation is comprised of those plants or plant communities that have root masses capable of withstanding high streamflow events (*what community types are present?*)
41				10) Riparian-wetland plants exhibit high vigor
42				11) Adequate riparian-wetland vegetative cover present to protect banks and dissipate energy during high flows (*enough*) *Refer to Elmore and Winward 2007 Estimating Percent Vegetation Cover* *Refer to Winward 2000 page 34 Key to Greenline Riparian Capability Groups*
45				12) Plant communities are an adequate source of coarse and/or large woody material (for maintenance/recovery)

TR 1737-15 page #	Yes	No	N/A	EROSION DEPOSITION
47				13) Floodplain and channel characteristics (i.e., rocks, overflow channels, coarse and/or large woody material) adequate to dissipate energy
51				14) Point bars are revegetating with riparian-wetland vegetation
52				15) Lateral stream movement is associated with natural sinuosity
53				16) System is vertically stable (*not downcutting*)

55				17) Stream is in balance with the water and sediment being supplied by the watershed (i.e., no excessive erosion or deposition)

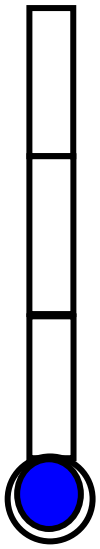
STEP 6: Following completion of the checklist, have a group discussion to determine a "functional rating." Review the "yes" and "no" answers on the checklist and their respective comments about the severity of the situation, then collectively agree on a rating. Use the "Remarks" space below to document important elements of the discussion and decision, as well as any additional remarks.

If the group agrees on a functional-at risk rating, determine if trend is toward or away from PFC if possible. Preferably, trend is determined by comparing the present situation with previous photos, trend studies, inventories, and any other documentation or personal knowledge attained in a review of existing documents or interviews prior to the field portion of the PFC assessment. In the absence of information prior to the assessment, indicators of "apparent trend" may be deduced during the assessment process. Recruitment and establishment of riparian-wetland species (or the absence thereof) that indicate an increase (or decline) in soil moisture characteristics can be especially useful. Use the "Remarks" space below to document the group's rationale and trend determination.

Mark where the group feels the rating fits on the thermometer.

Remarks

SUMMARY DETERMINATION

Functional Rating		**Are factors contributing to unacceptable conditions outside the control of the manager?**
___ Proper Functioning Condition ___ Functional - At Risk* ___ Nonfunctional ___ Unknown ***Trend for Functional - At Risk:** ___ Upward ___ Downward ___ Not Apparent	 **PFC** **FAR** **NF**	Yes ___ No ___ ***These are some of the elements that affect capability determination.*** **If yes, what are those factors?** ___ Flow regulations ___ Mining activities ___ Upstream channel conditions ___ Channelization ___ Road encroachment ___ Oil field water discharge ___ Augmented flows ___ Other (specify)

References

Elmore, W. and A. Winward. 2007. Estimating percent vegetation cover on streambanks for the proper functioning condition assessment for lotic areas item 11. Version 3.0

Prichard, D., J. Anderson, C. Correll, J. Fogg, K. Gebhardt, R. Krapf, S. Leonard, B. Mitchell, and J. Staats. 1998. Riparian Area Management: a guide to assessing proper functioning condition and the supporting science for lotic areas. USDI Bureau of Land Management. National Applied Resource Sciences Center.

Winward, A.H. 2000. Monitoring the vegetation resources in riparian areas. General Technical Report RMRS-GTR-47. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station.