Joshua Frost, PWS, Certified Ecologist Project Manager, Technical Services Branch Regulatory Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

June 1, 2016







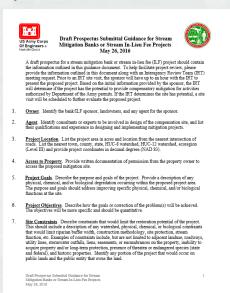
Regulatory Initiatives

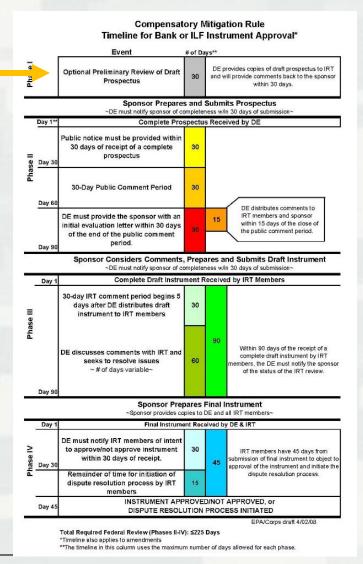
- Development of Mitigation Guidance Documents
 - Draft Prospectus Guidance for Stream Mitigation Banks or ILF Projects
 - Draft Prospectus Guidance for Wetland Mitigation Banks or ILF Projects
 - Permittee-Responsible Mitigation Guidance
 - Prospectus Checklist for Stream and Wetland Mitigation Banks or ILF Projects
 - Long-Term Management Guidance
 - Performance Standards and Monitoring for Stream and Wetland Compensatory Mitigation
 - Mitigation Banking Instrument Template
- Purpose: To provide clear expectations to the public and a consistent and more efficient review that is rooted in sound science and is compliant with all applicable laws





- Applicable to Bank and ILF Projects
- Draft Prospectus Submittal Procedures:
 - ► Submit draft prospectus information and request a meeting with the IRT
 - ► Based on the information provided, the IRT will determine if the project has potential
 - ▶ If the site has potential, a site visit will be scheduled
 - ▶ IRT will provide written comments following the site visit





- Basic information required in the submittal:
 - ► Owner project sponsor, landowners, etc.
 - ► Agent consultants and qualifications
 - ▶ Project location coordinates, town, HUC, ecoregion, etc.
 - ► Written permission to access the property







Project Goals

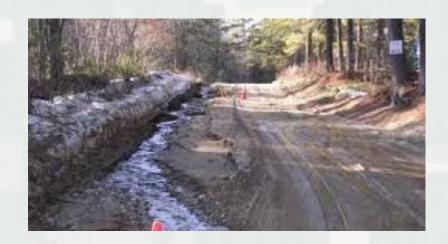
- ► Why are you proposing the project?
- ► Address specific physical, chemical, and/or biological functions that will be improved
 - Example: Restore reach functions to meet upstream reference reach condition.

Project Objectives

- ► How will the goals be achieved?
- ➤ Objectives will be specific and quantitative
 - Examples. Establish a 200' riparian buffer, restore floodplain connectivity (BHR =1), improve bedform diversity (pool max depth ratio >1.5), etc.



- Site Constraints
 - ► Describe constraints that would limit restoration potential
 - Site protection
 - Roadways
 - Utility lines
 - Construction methodologies
 - Easements
 - · Etc.





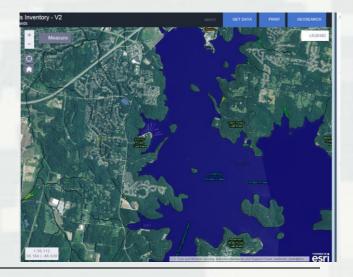




Maps

- ► Parcel map
- ► Estimation of aquatic resource boundaries
- ► NRCS soil map
- ► National Wetland Inventory Map
- ► Topographic map
- ► Aerial maps (current and historic)
- ► Bank service area (if applicable)
- Site Photos







- Historic Properties
 - ► List the presence of any known cultural, archaeological, and or historic resources at or near the site
- Threatened and Endangered Species
 - ► List any know species or critical habitat known to exist at or near the site.







- Catchment Assessment Form
 - ▶ Used to determine restoration potential
 - ► Identify Site Risks and Site Constraints



	Categories Description of Catchment Condition R						
Categories		Poor	Fair	Good	(P/F/G		
1	Concentrated Flow (Hydrology)	Potential for concentrated flow/impairments to reach restoration site and no treatments are in place	Some potential for concentrated flow/impairments to reach restoration site, however, measures are in place to protect resources	No potential for concentrated flow/impairments from adjacent land use			
2	Impervious cover (Hydrology)	Greater than 15%	Between 7% and 15%	Less than 7%			
3	Land Use Change (Hydrology)	Rapidly urbanizing/urban	Single family homes/suburban	Rural communities/slow growth or primarily forested			
4	Distance to Roads (Hydrology)	Roads located in or adjacent to project reach and/or major roads proposed in 10 year DOT plans	No roads in or adjacent to project reach. No more than one major road proposed in 10 year DOT plans.	No roads in or adjacent to project reach. No proposed roads in 10 year DOT plans.			
5	Watershed Hydrology (e.g., flow regime, basin characteristics) (Hydrology)	Flashy flow regime as a result of land use, rainfall patterns, geology, and soils.	Moderate flashy flow regime as a result of land use, rainfall patterns, geology, and soils.	Not Flashy flow regime as a result of land use, rainfall patterns, geology, and soils.			
6	Percent Forested (Watershed) (Hydrology)	<= 20%	>20% and <70%	>=70%			
7	Riparian Vegetation (Geomorphology)	<50% of contributing stream length has > 25 ft corridor width	50-80% of contributing stream length has > 25 ft corridor width	>80% of contributing stream length has > 25 ft corridor width			
8	Sediment Supply (Geomorphology)	High sediment supply from upstream bank erosion and surface runoff	Moderate sediment supply from upstream bank erosion and surface runoff	Low sediment supply. Upstream bank erosion and surface runoff is minimal			
9	Located on or downstream of a 303(d) listed stream TMDL list (Physicochemical)	On, upstream, or downstream of 303(d) and no TMDL/WS Mgmt plan to address deficiencies	On, upstream, or downstream of 303(d) and TMDL/WS Mgmt plan addressing deficiencies	Not on 303(d) list			
10	Agricultural Land Use (Physicochemical)	Livestock access to stream and/or intensive cropland immediately upstream of project reach.	Livestock access to stream and/or intensive cropland upstream of project reach. A sufficient reach of stream is between Ag, land use and project reach.	There is little to no agricultural land uses or the livestock or cropland is far enough away from project reach to cause no impact to water quality or biology.			
11	NPDES Permits	Many NPDES permits within watershed or some within one mile of project reach	A few NPDES permits within watershed and none within one mile of project reach	No NPDES permits within watershed and none within one mile of project reach			
13	Watershed impoundments (Biology)	Impoundment(s) located within 1 mile upstream or downstream of project area and/or has a negative effect on project area and fish passage	No impoundment within 1 mile upstream or downstream of project area OR impoundment does not adversely affect project area but a blockage could exist outside of 1 mile and impact and fish passage	No impoundment upstream or downstream of project area OR impoundment provides beneficial effect on project area and allows for fish passage			
14	Organism Recruitment (Biology)	Channel immediately upstream or downstream of project reach is concrete, piped, or hardened.	Channel immediately upstream or downstream of project reach has native bed and bank material, but is impaired.	Channel immediately upstream or downstream of project reach has native bed and bank material.			
15	Percent of Catchment being Enhanced or Restored	Less than 40% of the total catchment area is within the project reach.	40 to 60% of the total catchment area is within the project reach.	Greater than 60% of the total catchment area is within the project reach.			
16	Other						



Catchment Assessment Form 1 of 1 12-8-2015

Synchronizing the 2004 Stream Mitigation Guidelines with the 2008 Mitigation Rule

- Historically, the Corps and TDEC (401 agency) has used the "2004 Stream Mitigation Guidelines for the State of Tennessee" as guidance for determining stream mitigation credit ratios.
- The document uses a ratio system for providing stream mitigation credit.
 - 1.5:1 Restoration, 3:1 Enhancement, etc.
- Mitigation ratio determinations are dependent on work related definitions, instead of functional lift
 - Example: Definition of restoration: "Restoration will typically include rebuilding the appropriate channel pattern, profile, dimension, and riparian zone"
- The 2004 Stream Mitigation Guidelines do not evaluate aquatic resource functions / lift and the definitions apply to a wide range of projects with varying degrees of functional lift.

STREAM MITIGATION GUIDELINES FOR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE



ENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATIO DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION

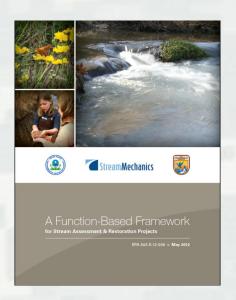
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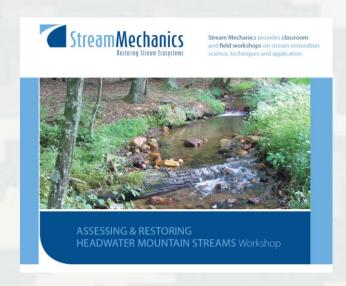




- Background: The IRT attended three stream assessment and mitigation review workshops
 - ► Three Workshop Series
 - Function-based Framework for Stream Assessment and Restoration
 - Natural Channel Design Review Checklist
 - Assessing and Restoring Headwater Mountain Streams



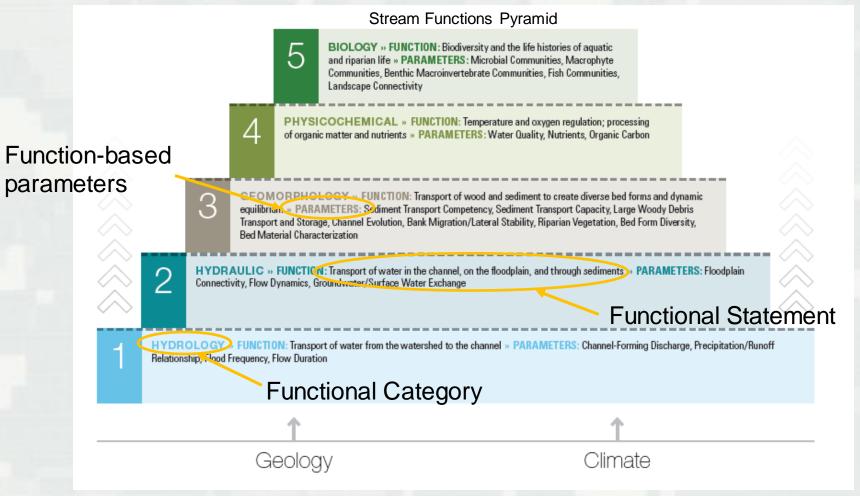






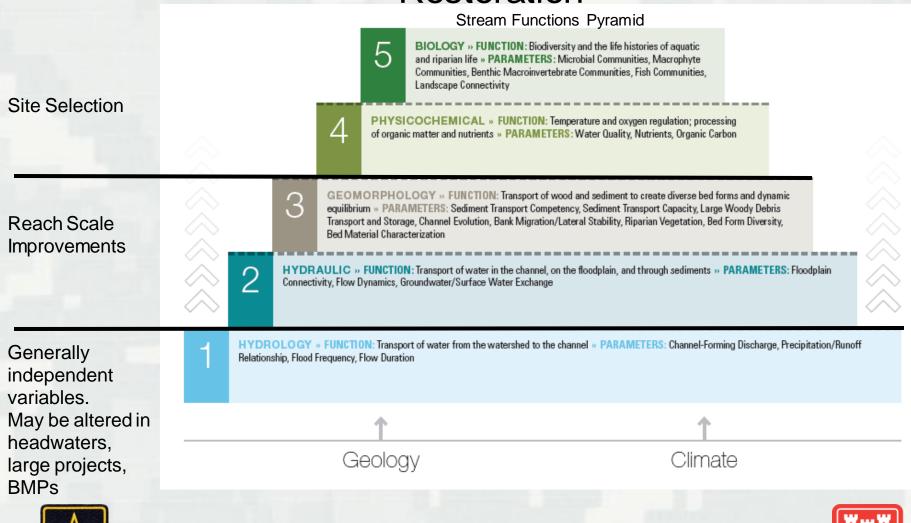
Harman, W., R. Starr, M. Carter, K. Tweedy, M. Clemmons, K. Suggs, C. Miller. 2012. A Function-Based Framework for Stream Assessment and Restoration Projects. US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, Washington, DC EPA 843-K-12-006. https://streammechanics.egnyte.com/h-s/20120914/cde14b2bb9f2456d













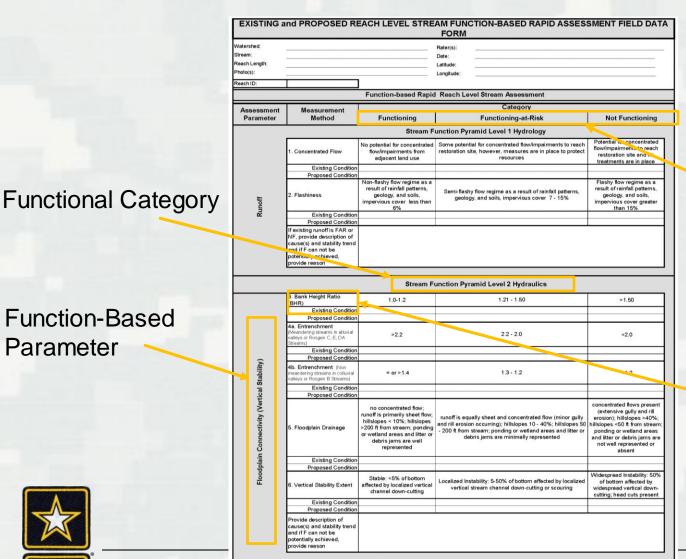
- This assessment approach will help us describe a project's functional lift and inform our determination of appropriate mitigation ratios.
- The assessment approach evaluates the existing and proposed stream function-based conditions.
 - It does not assess all stream functions but rather those critical to understanding stream process. Appropriate assessment parameters can be added or removed based on project objectives.
 - Specific measurement methods are used to quantify or describe function-based parameters, which are used to describe functions.











Categories of measurement values

Measurement Method



BUILDING STRONG®

Function-Based

Parameter

Numerical and descriptive values were developed from peerreviewed journals, government documents, books, proceeding papers, and professional judgement

Many measurements are stratified by Rosgen stream type, slope, and, drainage area

Data collected from existing stream

Condition resulting from proposed mitigation



Vatershed: tream; teach Length; thoto(s); teach ID;			Rater(s): Date: Latitude: Longitude:	
		Function-based Rapid	Reach Level Stream Assessment	
Assessment	Measurement		Category	
Parameter	Method	Functioning	Functioning-at-Risk	Not Functioning
	-	Stream F	unction Pyramid Level 1 Hydrology	
	1. Concentrated Flow	No potential for concentrated flow/impairments from adjacent land use	Some potential for concentrated flow/impairments to reach restoration site, however, measures are in place to protect resources	Potential for concentrated flow/impairments to reach restoration site and no treatments are in place
	Existing Condition			Treatments are in place
Runoff	Proposed Condition 2. Flashiness	Non-flashy flow regime as a result of rainfall patterns, geology, and soils, impervious cover less than 6%	Semi-flashy flow regime as a result of rainfall patterns, geology, and soils, impervious cover 7 - 15%	Flashy flow regime as a result of rainfall patterns, geology, and soils, impervious cover greater than 15%
2	Existing Condition Proposed Condition	076		than 15%
	If existing runoff is FAR or NF, provide description of cause(s) and stability trend and if F can not be potentially achieved, provide reason			
	3. Bank Height Ratio	Stream F	unction Pyramid Level 2 Hydraulics	>1.50
	(BHR) Existing Condition	1.0-1.2	1,21 - 1,00	71.00
	Proposed Condition			
**	4a. Entrenchment (Meandering streams in alluvial valleys or Rosgen C, E, DA Streams)	>2.2	2.2 - 2.0	<2.0
	Existing Condition Proposed Condition			
Stability)	4b. Entrenchment (Non meandering streams in colluvial valleys or Rosgen B Streams)	= or >1.4	1.3 - 1.2	<1.2
Ea	Existing Condition Proposed Condition			
Flood, ain Co nectivity (Vertical Stability)	5. Floodplain Drainage	no concentrated flow; runoff is primarily sheet flow; hillslopes < 10%; hillslopes >200 ft from stream; ponding or wetland areas and litter or debris jams are well represented	runoff is equally sheet and concentrated flow (minor gully and rill erosion occurring): hillslopes 10 - 40%; hillslopes 50 - 200 ft from stream; ponding or wetland areas and litter or debris jams are minimally represented	concentrated flows presen (extensive gully and rill erosion); hillslopes >400 ft hillslopes <50 ft from strean ponding or wetland areas and litter or debris jams are not well represented or absent
a.	Existing Condition Proposed Condition			
Flood	6. Vertical Stability Extent	Stable: <5% of bottom affected by localized vertical channel down-cutting	Localized Instability: 5-50% of bottom affected by localized vertical stream channel down-cutting or scouring	Widespread Instability: 50% of bottom affected by widespread vertical down- cutting; head cuts present
	Existing Condition Proposed Condition			
	Proposed Condition Provide description of cause(s) and stability trend and if F can not be potentially achieved.			



Function	Assessment Parameter	Measurement Method
Hydrology	Runoff	Concentrated flow, flashiness
Hydraulics	Floodplain Connectivity	BHR, Entrenchment, Floodplain drainage, vertical stability
Geomorphology	Riparian vegetation, lateral stability, bedform diversity,	Buffer width, Buffer quality (vegetation RBP scores, invasive presence), BEHI/NBS, %bank erosion, LWD, % riffle, pool to pool spacing ratio, max depth ratio
Physicochemical	Water Quality and Nutrients	Water appearance and nutrient enrichment, detritus
Biology	Biology	Macroinvertebrate Index (SQSH), Macroinvertebrate tolerance, fish presence

		Function-based Rapid	Reach Level Stream Assessment				
Assessment	Measurement	Category					
Parameter	Method	Functioning	Functioning-at-Risk	Not Functioning			
		Stream Function P	yramid Level 3 Geomorphology				
	7. Buffer Width (ft) from top of bank	>50	30 - 49 ft	<30 ft			
	Left Bank Existing		7				
	Left Bank Proposed	L. Not Note:					
	Right Bank Existing		×				
	Right Bank Proposed						
	Riparian Vegetation Zone (EPA, RBP Habitat Assessment)	Good vegetation community diversity and density; human activities do not impact zone(optimal score 9-10)	Human activities impacted zone minimally (sub-optimal, score 6-8); width of riparian zone 20-40 feet (6-12 meters); human activities have impacted zone a great deal (marginal, score 3-5)	Little or no riparian vegetation due to human activities (poor score 0-2)			
	Left Bank Existing						
	Left Bank Proposed	W4					
	Right Bank Existing Right Bank Proposed						
	9. Vegetative Protection	More than 90% of the bank					
Riparian Vegetation	v. vegetanve midletildii	covered by undisturbed vegetation. All 4 classes (mature trees, understory trees, shrubs, groundcover) are represented and allowed to grow naturally. (optimal score 9-10)	70-90% of the bank covered by undisturbed vegetation. One class may not be well represented. Disruption evident but not effecting this plant growth. (sub-optimal score 6-8); 50-70% of the bank covered by undisturbed vegetation. Two classes of vegetation may not be well represented. (marginal, score 3-5)	Less than 50% of the ban covered by undisturbed vegetation or more than 2 classes are not well represented or most vegetation has been cropped. (poor score 0-2)			
edi	Left Bank Existing	56010-0-10)					
Œ	Left Bank Proposed						
	Right Bank Existing						
	Right Bank Proposed 10 Riparian Zone Invasive						
	Species	Invasive species not present or sparse	Invasive species well represented and after the community	Majority of vegetation is invasive			
	Left Bank Existing						
	Left Bank Proposed						
	Right Bank Existing Right Bank Proposed						
	Provide description of cause(s) and stability trend and if F can not be potentially achieved, provide reason						
		Stroom F	etion Demanid Loyal 2 Comparabalas				
	11. Dominant BEHI/NBS	LVL, LVL, LVM, LVH, LVVH.	ction Pyramid Level 3 Geomorphology M.L., M.M., M.H., L/Ex, H./L, M.VH, W.Ex, H./L, H.M., VH.V.L,	H/H, H/Ex, VH/H, Ex/M,			
	Rating	MVL MVL	EXVL M/M, M/H, L/EX, H/L, M/VH, M/EX, H/L, H/M, VH/VL, EXVL	EXH, EXVH, VH/VH, EX/E			
	Existing Condition (Right bank) Proposed Condition (Right Bank)						
È	Existing Condition (Left bank)						
Stabil	Proposed Condition (Left Bank)						
Lateral Stability	12. Dominant Bank Erosion	Dominate bank erosion rate is low 10%	Dominate bank erosion rate is moderate 10-25%	Dominate bank erosion rat is high >25%			
	Existing Condition						
	Proposed Condition						

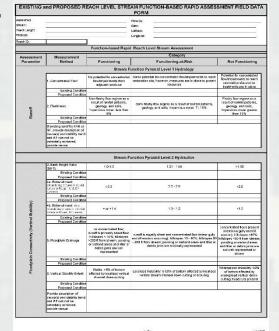


Refer to A Function-Based Framework for Stream Assessments and Restoration Projects document for supporting information to completing the form.



 The Hydraulic and Geomorphic Assessment Form will be used to calculate and record data used in the Rapid Assessment Field Data

Form.





Hydraulic and Geomorphic Assessment Data Form

sq. miles

feet

feet

feet

feet

feet

ft/ft.

feet

feet

ft/ft.

ft/ft.

sq. feet

sq. feet

I. Bankfull Verification

- A. Regional Curve
- Drainage Area
- C. Difference between bankfull stage and water surface
- D. Bankfull Width (Measured)
- E. Bankfull Area (Measured)
- Bankfull Mean Depth (Area/Width)
- G. Bankfull Width (Regional Curve) H. Bankfull Area (Regional Curve)
- I. Bankfull Mean Depth (Regional Curve

Area Calculations

II. Stream Classification

- A. Bankfull W/D, calculate as Bankfull Width
 - Bankfull Mean Depth
- B. Bankfull Max Riffle Depth (Dmax)
- C. Floodprone Area Width
- D. Entrenchment Ratio, calculate as Floodprone Area Width
- Bankfull Width
- E. Slope Estimate
- F. Channel Material Estimate
- G. Rosgen Stream Type

III. Floodplain Connectivity

A. Bank Height/Riffle Data

	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄
Low Bank Height (LBH)				
Dmax				
Bank Height Ratio (LBH/Dmax)				
Riffle Length				

Stream Mechanics (modified by Corps on 5/17/2016)



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- Biological Assessment Required for:
 - ► Determining Waterbody Status
 - ► "Only stream segments considered impaired will qualify for compensatory mitigation credit" (2004 Stream Mitigation Guidelines for the State of Tennessee)
- Biological Data
 - ► Contact TDEC to obtain any pre-existing biological scores for the waterbody at or near the proposed project reach
 - ► In consultation with TDEC, the applicant may provide the biological scores (Quality System Standard Operating Procedure for Macroinvertebrate Stream Surveys)
- Rapid Assessment Field Data Form (Measurement Methods 23 & 24)

	23. Macroinvertebrate			
s ephemeral)	Index Semi Quantitative Single Habitat (SQSH) Macroinvertebrate Sample (as defined in 2011 TN State QSSOP for macroinvertebrate surveys)	SQSH Score: >34 (Ecoregion 73A; >24)	SQSH Score: 30-34 (Ecoregion 73A; 20-24)	SQSH Score: <30 (Ecoregion 73A; <20)
A B	Existing Condition			
tre og	Proposed Condition			
Biology te if strear	24. Macroinvertebrate			
Biology mplete if stream	Tolerance from NCBI Metric Score (as defined in the 2011 TN State QSSOP	Abundant intolerant species	Limited intolerant species	Only tolerant species
(Do not co	for macroinvertebrate surveys)	6	4	<4





- One form is completed for each stream reach
 - ► Changes in gradient, Rosgen classification, floodplain connectivity, lateral stability, riparian vegetation, etc. should be used to delineate each stream reach



- Visual Habitat Assessment
 - ▶ Provide habitat assessment data sheets for each unique stream reach.
 - ► These field sheets are modified from Rapid Bioassessment Protocols for Use in Wadeable Streams and Rivers (Barbour et. al., 1999).

	MENT FIELD SHEET- M			Revision 5 Effective Da	te: July 1, 2011	
	detailed descriptions and ra	nk information)				
STATION ID:			DATE:	AT ASSESSED BY:		
STREAM NAME:					TIME:	
STATION LOCA	TION:		ECORE	EGION: QC:	Consensus Duplicate	
WBID/HUC:	G	ROUP:	ASSOC	CIATED LOG#:		
	Optimal	Suboptimal		Marginal	Pour	
1. Epifaunal Substrate/ Available Cover With a constraint of the control of the c		Natural stable habitat covers 40-70% of stream reach. Three or more productive habitats present. (If near 70% and more than 3 go to optimal.)		Natural stable habitat covers 20 -40% of stream reach or only 1- 2 productive habitats present. (If near 40% and more than 2 go to suboptimal.)	Less than 20% stable habitet; lack of habitet is obvious; substrate unstable or lacking.	
SCORE	20 29 18 17 16	15 14 13	12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1	
Comments						
2.Embeddedness of Riffles	Gravel, cobble, and boulders 0-25% surrounded by fine sediment. Layering of cobble provides diversity of niche space. If near 25% drop to suboptimal if fille not layered cobble.	Gravel, cobble boulders 25-50 surrounded by sediment, Nich bottom layers o compromised. 50% & riffles n cobble drop to	% fine es in of cobble If near not layered	Gravel, cobble, and boulder's are 50-75% surrounded by fine sediment. Niche space in middle layers of cobble is starting to fill with fine sediment.	Gravel, cobble, and boulders are more than 75% surrounded by fine sediment. Niche space is reduced to a single layer or is absent.	
SCORE	20 19 18 17 16		12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1	
Comments	20 27 74 11 10	15 14 15	12 11	1 20 7 0 7 0		
Continents		-0-00-02160	22-252	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	
3. Velocity/ Depth Regime	All four velocity/depth regimes present (slow- deep, slow-shallow, fast- deep, fast-shallow).	Only 3 of the 4 present (if fast- is missing score if slow-deep missore 15.	shallow c lower).	Only 2 of the 4 habitat regimes present (if fast- shallow or slow-shallow are missing, score low).	Dominated by 1 velocity/depth regime. Others regimes too small of infrequent to support aquatic populations.	
SCORE	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13	12. 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1	
Comments						
COURT TO THE COURT OF THE COURT						
4. Sediment Deposition affects less than 5% of affects 5-30% of stream bottom in quiet overas. New deposition on islands and point barra is albasent or minimal. absent or minimal. absent or minimal.		Sediment depos affects 5-30% of bottom. Slight deposition in pa- slow areas. Son deposition on is and point bars, to marginal if h approaches 30%	of stream ool or ne new slands Move nuild-up	Sediment deposition affects 30-50% of stream bottom. Sediment deposits at obstruction, constrictions and bends. Moderate pool deposition.	Heavy deposits of fine material, increased har development; more than 50% of the bottom changing frequently; pools almost absent due to substantial sediment deposition.	
SCORE	20 29 18 17 16	15 14 13	12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1	
Comments			4			
					7.00	
5. Channel Flow Status	Water reaches base of both lower banks and streambed is covered by water throughout reach. Minimal productive habitat is exposed.	Water covers > streambed or 2: productive habi exposed.	5% of	Water covers 25-75% of streambed and/or productive habitat is mostly exposed.	Very little water in channe and mostly present as standing pools. Little or ne productive habitat due to lack of water.	
SCORE	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13	12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1	
Comments	12 10 17 10	15 14 15	An 11			
Comments		1	- 93			





- Proposed Mitigation Approach
 - ► Stream reach id
 - ▶ Stream length
 - ► Establishment, re-establishment, rehabilitation, enhancement, preservation
 - ► Proposed mitigation ratio

Example table

Stream Reach	Existing Length	Mitigation Approach	Proposed Length	Mitigation Ratio	Credits
Reach 1	800	Rehabilitation	800	1.5:1	533
Reach 2	500	Enhancement	500	3:1	167

Functional Lift

▶ Describe how proposed project will increase stream functions above preproject levels

▶ Use information collected in the Rapid Assessment Data Forms



Site Protection

- ► Describe the long-term site protection
 - conservation easement
 - restrictive covenant
 - · Etc.

Long-term Management

- ► Proposed ownership arrangements
- ► Potential easement holder







Summary

- The draft prospectus guidance document is applicable for banks and ILF programs
- It facilitates early feedback to mitigation providers
- The Rapid Stream Assessment will help describe a project's potential functional lift and inform the our determination of appropriate mitigation ratios





Questions?



http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx



