

Is Your Stream Healthy? 10 Things To Look For



1. EPIFAUNAL SUBSTRATE



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What types of submerged materials are on the channel bottom?

6. CHANNEL ALTERATION



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Is the stream channel altered by humans?

2. EMBEDDEDNESS: Rocky bottom streams only



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Are fine sediments being deposited in riffle/run area?

7. CHANNEL SINUOSITY: Muddy bottom streams only



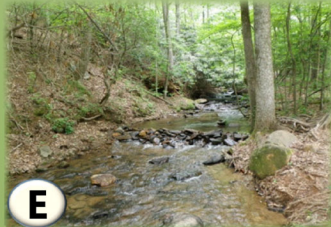
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Does the channel have lots of curves and bends?

3. RIFFLE/RUN/POOL



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Is a diversity of instream habitats available: riffle, runs, pools?

8. BANK STABILITY



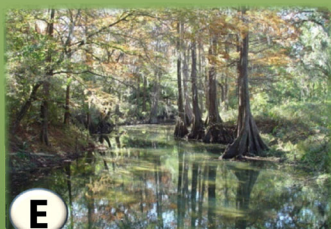
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How stable are the streambanks (look at both left and right)?

4. SEDIMENT DEPOSITION



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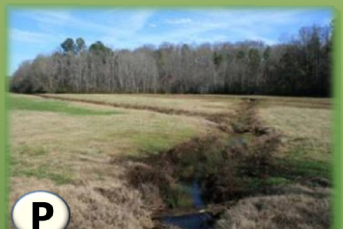
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Are sand bars and islands present?

9. VEGETATIVE PROTECTION



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Are streambanks covered & shaded by a variety of vegetation?

5. CHANNEL FLOW STATUS



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How much water is in the stream channel?

10. RIPARIAN VEGETATIVE ZONE WIDTH



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What is the amount of buffer available?

-KEY-
E Excellent **P** Poor



The publication of this document was supported by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and was financed in part through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the provisions of section 319(h) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended.