Stream Restoration Implementation

Greg Jennings, PhD, PE jenningsenv@gmail.com

https://www.youtube.com/user/RiverShared





Stream Ecosystem Restoration:

"activities that initiate or accelerate the recovery of ecosystem health, integrity, and sustainability" (SER, 2004)



Standards for ecologically successful river restoration Palmer et al., Journal of Applied Ecology, 2005, 42, 208–217

- design of an ecological river restoration project should be based on a specified guiding image of a more dynamic, healthy river that could exist at the site
- 2. river's ecological condition must be measurably improved
- river system must be more self-sustaining and resilient to external perturbations so that only minimal follow-up maintenance is needed
- 4. during the construction phase, no lasting harm should be inflicted on the ecosystem
- 5. both pre- and post-assessment must be completed and data made publicly available



Stream Restoration is a Systematic Process

- 1. Planning & Assessment
- 2. Engineering
- 3. Construction & Planting
- 4. Monitoring, Maintenance, Adjustments



Samford Univ Shades Creek

Daphne UT D'Olive Creek

Goals of Stream Restoration Projects

- Improve habitats & water quality
- Improve recreation & aesthetics
- Protect infrastructure & land value
- Educate citizens & decision-makers



Daphne UT D'Olive Creek

Samford Univ Shades Creek

Restoration Components

- 1. Channel morphology & floodplain connection
- 2. In-stream structures
- 3. Streambank stabilization
- 4. Vegetation
- 5. Stream crossings
- 6. Stormwater/watershed management
- 7. Monitoring & maintenance
- 8. Public access & education



1. Channel Morphology & Floodplain Connection

- Dimension (bankfull & flood flow)
- Pattern (meander)
- Profile (bed profile)
- Floodplain connection



NCSU Rocky Branch

2006



2008

NCSU Rocky Branch



Reference Reaches:

Morphology design parameters serve as a "starting point"





Reference Reaches:

- Upstream/downstream
- Similar watersheds
- Databases
- Historical photos





Similar bed/bank materials; hydrology; sediment inflow; slope; valley

Reference Reaches:

- Channels well-connected to alluvial floodplains with little evidence of incision (bank height ratios less than 1.2)
- Freely-formed meanders with alternating riffles and pools
- Streambanks and floodplains well-vegetated with no erosion
- Upstream watersheds mostly forest and agriculture
- Stable and unconfined for a length 20 times bankfull width





Low Bank Height and Natural Grade Control



Bankfull Indicators: Top of Bank, Point Bars, Lateral Benches



Regional curve development

- Total station surveys
- Quantify bedform morphology
 - Bankfull width, depth
 - Bankfull cross-sectional area
 - Bankfull discharge



- Fit log-log plots with power tunctions

 Geomorphology /drainage area
- Compare to other regional curves (PA, MD, VA, NC, GA)
 - Test for differences in slope (ANCOVA)

Regional Curve data sources: PA – White 2001; MD – McCandless and Everett 2002; VA – Lotspeich 2009; NC – Harman et al. 1999; GA – Pruitt 2001



Alabama Piedmont Regional Curves (21 reference streams)

Bankfull Crosssectional Area Related to Watershed Drainage Area





Alabama Piedmont Regional Curves (21 reference streams)

Bankfull Width and Mean Depth Related to Watershed Drainage Area



10

Drainage Area (km²)

100

٥

0.1

0.1

Alabama Piedmont Regional Curves (21 reference streams)

Bankfull Discharge (estimated) Related to Watershed Drainage Area



10

Drainage Area (km²)

100

0.1

0.1

Completed Projects:

- Upstream/downstream
- Similar watersheds
- Successes & Failures





Auburn Town Creek Park (5 years later)



Bankfull Stage: Water fills the active channel and begins to spread onto the floodplain

Stream Corridor Restoration: Principles, Processes, and Practices. 1998. Federal Interagency Stream Restoration Working Group.



Priority 1: Reconnect Floodplain

Replace incised channel with shallow channel raised to existing floodplain elevation





Town Creek Tributary

2007

Engineering Design:

Morphological Table

David Bidelspach, PE, Stantec

Demonster	Example of the			Condition of these			President of Statistics 1			North Street 1		
ALC: NOT THE	Min Median Max			Min Median Max			Min Median Max			Min Median Max		
Stream name	Privet Creek - Auburn AL			Privet Creek - Auburs AL			Eve Crick -Tuskegee AL			Sals Branch - Raleigh NC		
Stream type	G5c			E4			13			E4		
Drainage area, DA (aq mi)	0.22			0.22			0.39			0.20		
Mean riffle depth, d _{har} (ft)	1.3	13	1.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.9	13	1.2	13
Riffle width, Wiler(ff)	5.1	5.2	7.5	8.5	8.6	8.8	10.1	10.4	12.3	7.4	8.3	8.5
Width-to-depth ratio, [Wine/dead]	4.0	3.9	5.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	-11.1	10.5	13.4	5.9	6.8	6.6
Riffle cross-section area, A _{and} (aq ff)	6.5	7.0	11.3	6.0	6.2	6.5	9.2	10.3	11.3	93	10.2	11.0
Max riffie depth, d _{uster} (ff)	1.6	1.7	2.2	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9
Max riffle depth ratio, [d_max/d_m]	1.2	13	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.9	14	1.5	1.5
Maan pool depth, d _{map} (fi)	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.7	3.5
Mean pool depth ratio, [d _{max} /d _{max}]	1.2	- 1.1	1.0	2.0	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.8	1.9	2.2	2.7
Pool width, White (ft)	6.5	6.5	6.5	10.6	10.8	11.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	11.0	14.0	15.0
Pool width ratio, [Winte/Wind	1.3	1.3	0.9	13	1.3	13	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.5	1.7	1.5
Pool cross-section area, Asate (sq ff)	9.0	9.0	9.0	7.2	8.7	10.4	12.5	12.5	12.5	11.7	15.9	18.2
Pool area ratio, [Ame/Anal	1.4	1.3	0.5	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.1	13	1.6	17
Max pool depth, d _{minit} (ff)	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5	2.3	23	2.3	2.5	2.9	3.0
Max pool depth ratio, [d_assardass]	1.3	1.2	1.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.3
Low back beight, LIEL(ff)	2.1	5.7	5.3	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.7	21	2.1	21
Low bank beight ratio, [LBH04]	1.3	3.4	2.4	1.0	1.0	10	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	11
Width flood-prone area, W., (ff)	50	7	12	67.9	103.5	132.5	151	230	220	114	130	145
Entrenchment ratio, ER IW- /W-d	9.7	14	1.5	5.0	12.0	15.0	15.0	20.2	17.9	15.4	15.7	17.4
Point har slope (ft/ft)	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.10	0.12	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.20	0.15	0.15	0.20
lank full mean valocity, page (VA (Bh))	31	2.9	1.5	11	3.2	31	3.8	14	31	12	2.9	12
Bankfull discharge (Opplefit)	20	20	20	20	20	20	35	38	35	30	30	38
Maander laneth I_ (ff)	105.0	121.0	133.0	10.4	77.6	97.1	28.0	35.0	42.0	47.0	60.0	89.0
Maander langth ratio II /W- 3	20.6	21.1	17.7	70	90	11.0	28	14	14	6.4	7.2	10.5
Padina of caracteria Ro (W)	30.0	14.0	45.0	17.0	10.8	21.8	16.0	18.0	25.0	12.0	19.0	23.0
Pading of curvature ratio (Pr. Q., J	50	6.5	73	20	23	27	1.6	17	21	16	23	27
Tale width Tr. (W)	15.0	56.0	61.0	24.4	411	\$1.0	100	24.0	15.0	25.0	45.0	69.0
Annual and a solution of the s	60	10.5	01	10	50	6.0	10	23	28	14	48.0	8.1
Deal leasts 1 (8)	0.9	10.0	2.4	3.0	2.0		1.0	10.0		100	2.0	
Pool length ratio II AV. 1				17.0	21.5	20.5	15.0	1900	24.0	12.0	24.0	32.0
tota sengen rano (Ly/wand				2.0	2.5	3.0	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.5	2.9	3.8
Post-to-poo spacing, p-p (ff)				33.9	38.8	44.2	22.9	26.0	28.0	29.0	44.0	57.0
root-to-pool spacing ratio, [p-p-ward				4.0	4.5	5.0	2.2	2.5	2.3	3.9	5.3	6.7
Stream length, SL (ff)	1090.0	1090.0	1090.0	1200.0	1200.0	1200.0	205.0	205.0	205.0	245.0	268.0	290.0
Valley length, VL (ff)	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	151.0	183.0	168.0
valuy slops, VS (f2f)	0.0130	0.0130	0.0130	0.0130	0.0130	0.0130	0.0104	0.0106	0.0104	0.0110	0.0130	0.0150
Average water surface slope, S (202)	0.0119	0.0119	0.0119	0.0100	0.0100	0.0100	0.0077	0.0077	0.0077	0.0050	0.0060	0.0060
Sinuosity, k = SL/VL (ft/ft)	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.62	1.46	1.73
Rathe slope, Ser(firff)	0.0150	0.0150	0.0150	0.0150	0.0170	0.0225	0.0090	0.0170	0.0240	0.0050	0.0150	0.0200
Rithe slope ratio, [S_S]	1.3	13	1.3	13	1.7	23	1.2	2.2	3.1	1.6	2.5	33
Run slops, S _{ma} (fiff)										0.0150	0.0210	0.0250
Run slope ratio, [S ₄ /5]										3.6	3.5	4.2
Pool slope, S _p (B'R)	0.0100	0.0100	0.0100	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0005	0.0016	0.0000	0.0005	0.0013
Pool slope ratio, [5y/5]	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
Olide slope, S _a (fiff)										0.0005	0.0012	0.0015
Olide slope ratio, [Sg/S]										0.1	0.2	0.3
Riffle length, L _{ef} (#)	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	15.1	17.7	7.0	9.0	14.0	6.0	11.0	23.0
Effle length ratio, [L_/Wind	2.2	2.1	1.5	13	1.8	2.0	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.5	1.3	2.7
lankfull wetted perimeter, WP(ff)	7.6	7.9	10.5	9.9	10.1	10.3	11.9	12.4	14.1	9.9	10.8	11.1
lankfull hydraulic radius, R (ft)	0.5	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.0
lankfull Mannings n (estimate)	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.035
Mannings bankfull discharge, Qast (cft)	21.1	23.4	42.9	14.2	14.9	15.8	28.9	34.0	36.4	26.8	32.5	36.1
lankfull shear stress (tau)	0.63	0.66	0.80	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.37	0.40	0.38	0.29	0.35	0.37
Shields - diameter mobilized (mm)	35	-40	60	22	22	22	21	22	22	18	20	21
D _{N0} (mm)	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	6	12
D _M (mm)	8	32	45	12	12	12	8	8	8	32	34	32

Concept NOT FOR DESIGN USE Auburn Alabama and Tuskegee NF Mini-Regional Relationship Prepared by DAB 11-29-07

 $y = 18.786x^{0.6724}$

 $R^2 = 0.99815$



Engineering Design: David Bidelspach, PE, Stantec









Construction: January, 2008



Entrenchment Ratio = W_{fpa} / W_{bkf} = 120/8 = 15



As-Built Survey





5 years after construction





5 years after construction

Channel Evolution: Vegetation Effects

- Width-to-depth ratio will decrease
- Banks will steepen

As-built:

 $A_{bkf} = 4.5 \text{ sq ft}$ $W_{bkf} / d_{bkf} = 7.6 / 0.6 = 13$ Bank Angles: 3:1 5 Years Later: $A_{bkf} = 3.8 \text{ sq ft}$ $W_{bkf} / d_{bkf} = 5.4 / 0.7 = 8$ Bank Angles: Near Vertical



Channel Evolution: Vegetation Effects

- Width-to-depth ratio will decrease
- Banks will steepen



Distance (feet)

Priority 1: Raise channel to existing valley and construct new meandering channel







2009

Entrenchment Ratio = W_{fpa} / W_{bkf} = 120/12 = 10



Priority 1: Raise channel to existing valley and construct new meandering channel



2005

South Fork Mitchell River

2006

Photo Credits: Darrell Westmoreland, North State Environmental, Inc.

Entrenchment Ratio = W_{fpa} / W_{bkf} = 120/20 = 6


Priority 2: Excavate lower floodplain and construct new meandering channel



2007

Cary Walnut Creek Tributary

2014

Photo Credit: David Bidelspach, Stantec, Inc.

Entrenchment Ratio = W_{fpa} / W_{bkf} = 120/15 = 8



Priority 2: Excavate lower floodplain and construct new meandering channel



2004

NCSU Rocky Branch

2005



2006

NCSU Rocky Branch

2006



Entrenchment Ratio = W_{fpa} / W_{bkf} = 65/16 = 4





2013

NCSU Rocky Branch



2013

NCSU Rocky Branch

Montgomery White Slough (2009)



Project Mgmt: Auburn Univ
Funding: ADEM, EPA 319
Design: GMC, Jennings
Construction: GMC
Vegetation: GMC, Auburn Univ

2008

2010

Engineering Design: William McLemore, PE, GMC



Priority 2: Reconnect Floodplain

Excavate wide floodplain and meander channel at a lower elevation



ER = 6 W/d = 11 K = 1.4 S = 0.003



White Slough

2010

Entrenchment Ratio = W_{fpa} / W_{bkf} = 84/14 = 6



Priority 2: Reconnect Floodplain



Priority 2: Reconnect Floodplain



Priority 2: Excavate lower floodplain and construct new meandering channel



2008

Trib to Saugatchee Creek





In-Stream Structures

- Boulders and logs sized to resist washout
- Vanes oriented to provide bank protection & maintain position
- Footers, splash rocks, backer logs, sills, chinking, geotextiles, backfilling to maintain structure stability
- Drops/steps support aquatic organism passage & structure stability



Functions: Flow Direction & Revetment

- Streambank protection
- Grade control
- Sediment transport
- Habitat enhancement (pools, aeration, cover)



Vanes (Boulder or Log)

- Oriented upstream at 20-30 degrees from bank tangent
- Sloping up from channel invert at 3-5 % arm toward bank
- May control grade using J-hook (< 0.5 ft drop)
- May need footers, sills, geotextile to avoid piping/washout



20-30 degrees

3-5 % arm slopes

Boulder Vanes

- Single-arm
- J-hook
- Cross-vane



Runaway Truck Ramp



Boulder J-Hook Vane: Scour Pool



Boulder J-Hook Vane



Chinking Boulders to Prevent Piping



Geotextile Curtain to Prevent Piping



Log J-hook Vanes for flow direction & habitat











Filter prove that is placed on the upperbalance of the structure 1/4 dialogue produce that for of the loss. The main half is that for all of opperture place place is that is the structure of the characteristic levels of the structure.

- Therein shall be due to such a namer that the worker realized are uned devent the bed sufficie elevation.

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while be a car defined into reach nodes of at least 3 thes the $^{\prime}$ The channel, dec. The car shall de 10–13 cm.

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NOTES:

- Any Sol, INTERSED Derive THE PLACEMENT OF 1-HORE WARK, STALL OF SECTO USED TEAPONEY AND REPORT SECTOR HEHIOD.
- PEER FAMIL REALING TAKES ON THE WITTERS ONE OF THE WAS TRACTING. TO PRESENT WHICH IT REPORT THROUGH BULLET CARS. THESE FAMILS SHALL STREW PROVING THE COMES SOLIES TO THE FAMILS OWNER SLEWTON WITTER THAT IS THE FAMIL OF THE STRUCTURE.
- THE OW RETARDS THE HEADER WE RETER LOS SHALL BE DENDED BY HARD ATH DRVEL CORRECTOR WE ADDRY ISSUE REDAR THE LASTING OFFETTOR.
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Multiple Log Vanes

Saugahatchee Creek

2007



2009 January

2009 July

Multiple Log Vanes

Saugahatchee Creek

Photo Credit: Dan Ballard, Town of Auburn

Multiple Log Vanes: Saugahatchee Creek



Log Vanes (with Toe Wood downstream)

- Auburn NE Sewer
- Redirect flow to allow natural vegetation to stabilize bank



Log Vanes (with Toe Wood downstream)

- 2-4 % arm slopes
- 20-25 degree arm angles
- Sealed with woven geotextile & backer logs



Log Vane (with J-Hook)

October 2013

Log J-Hook Vane



Log J-Hook Vane



<u>Log J-Hook Vane:</u> Flow direction, bank protection, habitat Arm slope = 1.2 / 30 = 4%; Arm angle = 25 degrees

Length = 30 ft

Max Drop = 0.3 ft

Rise = 1.2 ft

Storm Flow: Flow direction + Bank protection



Boulder Cross Vane

- Direct flow in new channel alignment
- Grade control and scour pool
- Footer boulders & geotextile


Cross Vanes for flow direction & grade control



Boulder Cross Vanes: Grade Control



Double-Drop Boulder Cross Vane



Double-Drop Offset Boulder Cross Vane



Double-Drop Offset Boulder Cross Vane



<u>Cross-Vane (Double-Drop):</u> Grade control, flow direction, scour Arm slope = 2.5 / 50 = 5%; Arm angles = 25 degrees

Max drop over each step = 0.5 ft



- <u>Riffle Morphology:</u> Bankfull Width = 25 ft; Depth = 2.2 ft Floodprone Width = 55 ft
- Entrenchment Ratio, ER = 55/25 = 2.2



Cross Vane (logs embedded)



Cross Vane (logs embedded)



Offset Boulder Cross Vane at a Bridge



Boulder W-Vane





Boulder W-Vane

Constructed Riffle



Constructed Riffle (Rock & Roll)



Constructed Riffle (Rock & Roll)



Constructed Riffle with Embedded Wood

- Undercut bed 2 ft and backfill with gravel, cobble, boulders, wood
- Cut thalweg 0.5 ft deep



Constructed Riffle with Embedded Wood



Riffle with Embedded Logs



Riffle with Log Rollers



1st Order Streambed Transplant

Substrate transfer from old channel to new channel



1st Order Streambed Transplant: 5 Yrs Later



Step-Pool + Cross Vane: Terminus Priority 1



Toe Wood Revetment

- Layers of logs and brush under water in pools
- Live cuttings above water (silky dogwood, elderberry)
- Matting, seed, transplanted alders on top



Toe Wood for bank protection, roughness, habitat



Sheet Rambin 6 of 7 A

Toe Wood for bank protection, roughness, habitat





Successful Structures

- Properly designed and located
- Low profile
- Constructed to withstand stress
- Excellent vegetation



Streambank Stabilization

- Temporary matting
- Bioengineering



Temporary Matting

- Biodegradable (coir, jute, excelsior)
- Seed and straw UNDER mat
- Keep matting relaxed
- Key in at top
- Stakes: wood or biodegradable plastic



Stream Crossings

- Aquatic organism passage
- Minimize geomorphic impacts
- Pass flood flows



Offset Boulder Cross Vane at a Bridge



Case Study: Parkerson Mill Creek, Auburn, AL (Northeast Sewer Project, 2013)

- Channel realignment
- Toe wood revetment
- Native plants

Boulder and log vanes

Coir matting





Case Study:

Parkerson Mill Creek, Auburn, AL

Softball Complex downstream of I-85, 2014

- Channel realignment
- Boulder and log vanes
- Toe wood revetment
- Coir matting
- Native plants



Problems:

- Sharp turn downstream of culvert to accommodate recreation
- Sediment accumulation in channel downstream of culvert forcing flow toward banks
- Failing bank armor
- Lack of native plants



April 7, 2014

March .
April 8, 2014 (after flood)





Stream Restoration Implementation

Greg Jennings, PhD, PE jenningsenv@gmail.com

https://www.youtube.com/user/RiverShared

