

HABITAT ASSESSMENT METRICS DESCRIPTION

At each sampling location a habitat assessment was done using California Stream Bioassessment Protocols. The High School scores are an average of the individual student scores.

Instream Cover - Amount of snags, submerged logs and undercut banks favorable for fish habitat. Measured on a scale of 0 - 20.

Epifaunal Substrate - Amount of substrate favorable for benthic macroinvertebrate colonization. Measured on a scale of 0 - 20.

Embeddedness - Extent to which the rocks and snags are covered or sunken into the silt. Measured on a scale of 0 - 20.

Channel Alteration - The amount of artificial alteration (channelization) done to the creek measured on a scale of 0 - 20.

Sediment Deposition - Measures the amount of sediment that has accumulated in pools and the changes that have occurred to the stream bottom as a result of deposition. Measured on a scale of 0 - 20.

Riffle Frequency - The frequency of riffles along the stream evaluated by dividing the distance between the riffles by the stream width. Expressed on a scale of 0 - 20.

Channel Flow - The degree to which a stream bed is filled with water and amount of substrate is exposed represented on a scale of 0 - 20.

Bank Vegetation - Each bank is assessed on a scale of 0 - 10 on the amount of vegetative cover. Maximum possible score is 20.

Bank Stability - Each bank is assessed on a scale of 0 - 10 on evidence of erosion or instability. Maximum possible score is 20.

Riparian Zone - Each bank is assessed on a scale of 0 - 10 on the amount of human activities in an area extending 18' from top of bank. Maximum possible score is 20

Total Habitat Score - Total of above scores, percentage of 200 possible points