



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Chesapeake Bay Field Office

Coastal Program

Stream Habitat Assessment and Restoration Program Overview



Photo Credit, USFWS 2009

*“Still glides the stream, and shall forever glide; the form remains;
the function never dies” William Wordsworth The River Buddon*

Approach

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Chesapeake Bay Field Office (CBFO) Stream Habitat and Restoration Team (Stream Team) promotes a comprehensive and function-based approach to conduct watershed and natural stream restoration activities that preserve trust species of high priority biological habitats in the United States. To achieve this, the stream team focuses on three core objectives: implementation projects, technical assistance and training.

Implementation Projects

The Stream Team has the ability to implement stream restoration projects using a variety of design approaches. They focus on selecting the most appropriate design approach based on goals and objectives, site constraints and

opportunities, potential functional uplift, and costs.

Our implementation capabilities include:

- Total station survey
- Watershed and reach function-based assessment
- Geomorphic assessment
- Biological assessment
- Hydraulic modeling
- Innovative techniques
- Sediment transport analysis
- CAD generated designs
- Construction oversight
- Post construction monitoring
- Permit application packets
- As-built surveys
- Construction specifications

Technical Assistance

The Stream Team has developed a variety of assessment and design tools

that are designed to aid practitioners in developing, implementing and monitoring stream restoration projects. The Stream Team can also conduct a wide range of stream assessment activities.

Our technical capabilities include:

- Assessment and Design Tools Development
- Detailed and Rapid Protocol Development
- Watershed Assessments and Prioritization
- Reach-level Function based Geomorphic and Biologic Assessments
- Pre and Post Restoration Monitoring
- Project Assessment and Design Reviews
- Stream GIS Assessments

Training

The Stream Team provides instruction on stream survey techniques and data analysis to other federal, state and local natural resource agencies.

Our current training topics include:

- Fluvial stream geomorphology restoration design methods
- Stream classification
- Function-based assessment
- Pre and post construction monitoring
- USGS gage surveys
- Stream restoration design review
- Specialized course development

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