

FACT SHEET

HOW TO ASSESS THE CONDITION OF STREAM BANK VEGETATION

RATING	VEGETATION	STABILITY
LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vegetation on banks generally sound• Good species diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• River channel is stable from erosion• No undermining of banks• No continuous damage to bank structure
MODERATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vegetation on banks is sparse• OR vegetation is the wrong kind• OR there is excessive growth within the river channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• River channel is starting to enter a state of decline and physical instability• Banks held by discontinuous vegetation or erosion resistant soils• Some obvious damage to bank structure and vegetation• Generally stable toe
SEVERE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vegetation on banks is missing• Banks are bare or falling into channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• River channel is in an advanced stage of disintegration• Unstable or dispersive soils• Mostly undercut toe• May be recent bank movement or erosion

Further information and advice

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