



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (SVAP2)

Element 3 – Bank Condition

Attach Photos

General Information	
Client: _____	Farm #: _____
Field Office: _____	Tract #: _____
County: _____	Field # and acreage: _____

Element 3 Bank condition

Banks are stable; protected by roots of natural vegetation, wood, and rock ^{1/} No fabricated structures present on bank No excessive erosion or bank failures ^{2/} No recreational or livestock access	Banks are moderately stable, protected by roots of natural vegetation, wood, or rock or a combination of materials Limited number of structures present on bank Evidence of erosion or bank failures, some with reestablishment of vegetation Recreational use and/or grazing do not negatively impact bank condition	Banks are moderately unstable; very little protection of banks by roots of natural wood, vegetation, or rock Fabricated structures cover more than half of reach or entire bank Excessive bank erosion or active bank failures Recreational and/or livestock use are contributing to bank instability	Banks are unstable; no bank protection with roots, wood, rock, or vegetation Riprap and/or other structures dominate banks Numerous active bank failures Recreational and/or livestock use are contributing to bank instability	
Right bank	10 9	8 7 6	5 4 3	2 1 0
Left bank	10 9	8 7 6	5 4 3	2 1 0

^{1/} Natural wood and rock does not mean riprap, gabions, log cribs, or other fabricated revetments.

^{2/} Bank failure refers to a section of streambank that collapses and falls into the stream, usually because of slope instability.