

PFC Assessment Form (Lotic)

Riparian area/stream name: Castaic Creek Reach ID: CEP-LO-4B ~~ER-LO-4B~~ Date: 5/4/17

Yes	No	NA	HYDROLOGY
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1) Floodplain is inundated in "relatively frequent" events.
Rationale: Wider floodplain did not exhibit signs of "relatively frequent" inundation; active channels did show signs of more frequent inundation.			
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2) Beaver dams are stable.
Rationale:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			3) Sinuosity, gradient, and width/depth ratio are in balance with the landscape setting (i.e., landform, geology, and bioclimatic region).
Rationale: Reach is located in a wide, low-gradient alluvial valley and exhibits moderate sinuosity; exhibits expected width:depth ratio.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			4) Riparian area is expanding or has achieved potential extent.
Rationale: where present, riparian veg shows diverse age classes; no obl. species			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			5) Riparian impairment from the upstream or upland watershed is absent.
Rationale: No evidence of riparian impairment			

Yes	No	NA	VEGETATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		6) There is adequate diversity of stabilizing riparian vegetation for recovery/maintenance.
Rationale: Less riparian veg. than downstream reach – mostly older individuals.			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		7) There are adequate age classes of stabilizing riparian vegetation for recovery/maintenance.
Rationale: See above comment.			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		8) Species present indicate maintenance of riparian soil-moisture characteristics.
Rationale: Most of floodplain is dry, vegetated with scrub/upland species. Active channels not significantly vegetated w/ riparian species.			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		9) Stabilizing plant communities capable of withstanding moderately high streamflow events are present along the streambank.
Rationale: Little riparian veg present.			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		10) Riparian plants exhibit high vigor.
Rationale: See above.			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		11) An adequate amount of stabilizing riparian vegetation is present to protect banks and dissipate energy during moderately high flows.
Rationale: See above			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			12) Plant communities are an adequate source of woody material for maintenance/recovery.
Rationale: Floodplain vegetated primarily w/ scrub shrub species; sparse cottonwood interspersed			

Yes	No	NA	GEOMORPHOLOGY
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			13) Floodplain and channel characteristics (i.e., rocks, woody material, vegetation, floodplain size, overflow channels) are adequate to dissipate energy.
Rationale: Floodplain is relatively wide, but little to dissipate energy other than width of channel.			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			14) Point bars are revegetating with stabilizing riparian plants.
Rationale:			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			15) Streambanks are laterally stable.
Rationale: No excessive erosion or cutting of streambanks observed.			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			16) Stream system is vertically stable (not incising).
Rationale: No incising observed.			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			17) Stream is in balance with the water and sediment that is being supplied by the drainage basin (i.e., no excessive erosion or deposition).
Rationale:			

Summary Determination

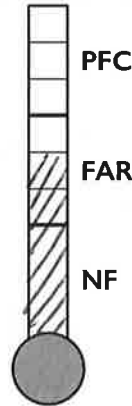
Functional rating (check one)

- Proper functioning condition
- Functional-at risk
- Nonfunctional

Trend (check one)

Monitored trend Apparent trend

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upward | <input type="checkbox"/> Upward |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downward | <input type="checkbox"/> Downward |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Static | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not apparent |



Rationale for rating: Reach is above upstream of lowest reach of Castaic Creek before it empties into Elderberry Forebay. Lowest reach is heavily vegetated w/diverse riparian veg. w/varying age classes, interspersed in higher areas of the floodplain w/scrub species.

Travelling upstream, active channels become smaller w/less surface flow. Floodplain transitions w/more silty/sandy substrate and dominated by scrub, sparsely interspersed w/riparian species - mostly mulefat, few cottonwoods.

However, no apparent significant scouring, erosion, or sediment deposition. System appears relatively stable.

Rationale for trend:

Though not apparently currently happening, continued drought could result in less water delivery through system and expansion of scrub-type habitat.
