

WORKSHEET 5 – STREAM ASSESSMENT

Date(s) Updated: _____

This assessment is intended for perennial or intermittent streams that provide habitat for fish or frogs or support riparian vegetation. If you do not have streams with riparian vegetation, assess the larger intermittent stream channels that flow during the entire rainy season. Assess ranch/farm streams while standing near the creek. It is important to note that concerns identified may not be caused by current livestock grazing activities. Describe the condition and location. Note any recorded problem conditions as caused by: Current livestock management (C); a Historic legacy site (H); or Natural causes (N). For more information, refer to the publication [Visual Assessment of Riparian Health](#).

STREAM CHANNEL

Question	Potential source	Pasture location and description of condition	Cause C / H / N
Bare soil along banks of stream?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N
Unstable or eroding stream banks?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N
Does the stream have the potential to support trees (look for remnant trees/shrubs along the channel)?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N
Are stream crossings for livestock unstable?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N
Grazing in riparian areas takes place all season?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N

STREAM TEMPERATURE

Question	Potential source	Pasture location and description of condition	Cause C / H / N
Is stream exposed to full sun?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N
Are streams wide and shallow?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N
Does stream flow appear inadequate, given stream channel size?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N

NUTRIENTS

Question	Potential source	Pasture location and description of condition	Cause C / H / N
Algae growth excessive in stream?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N
Does stream have an unusual color or appearance?	Yes No Not Sure		C H N