Appendix C – Aquatic Conservation Strategy Consistency Evaluation

1 Introduction

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), under the auspices of the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP), is the proponent and lead agency for the proposed Trinity River Watershed Restoration Project (Project). This evaluation is for restoration activities along the mainstem Trinity River and its tributaries within the Project activity area, as described in Chapter 4 of the Project Environmental Assessment (EA).

This document evaluates and determines the consistency of the TRRP activities with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) in the 1994 Record of Decision (1994 ROD) for the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Related Species within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl. It also assess alignment with the ACS objectives from the 2024 Northwest California Integrated Resource Management Plan (NCIP; BLM 2024) completed by the BLM"s Reding and Arcata Field Offices. The ACS was developed to restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and aquatic ecosystems contained within them on public lands. The 1994 ROD is incorporated into the 1995 Shasta-Trinity National Forest (STNF) Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP).

The intent of this evaluation is to ensure that decision makers have the information necessary to determine whether the TRRP watershed restoration activities are consistent with the ACS objectives. This evaluation incorporates information provided in the Mainstem Trinity River Watershed Analysis (BLM 1995), incorporates by reference the 2009 Master Environmental Impact Report prepared by Reclamation in cooperation with BLM, and other information in the administrative record to assist the decision maker. In order to make the finding that a project or management activity “meets” or “does not prevent attainment” of the ACS objectives, the decision maker must ensure that management actions that do not maintain the existing condition or lead to improved conditions in the long term would not be implemented.

The ACS states that species-specific strategies aimed at defining explicit standards for habitat elements would be insufficient for protecting even the targeted species. The intent of the ACS is to maintain and restore ecosystem health at watershed and landscape scales to protect habitat for fish and other riparian-dependent species and resources and to restore currently degraded habitats. This approach seeks to prevent further habitat degradation and restore habitat over broad landscapes as opposed to implementing individual projects or focusing on small watersheds. Because the ACS is based on natural disturbance processes, the 1994 ROD recognized that it is a long-term strategy that may take decades, and possibly more than a century, to accomplish all of its objectives.

The ACS contains four components: riparian reserves, key watersheds, watershed analysis, and watershed restoration. Each component is integral to improving the health of the aquatic ecosystems encompassed by the 1994 ROD. A detailed discussion of these components is provided in the ROD.

Attachment A of the 1994 ROD includes Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) that were incorporated as management direction into the STNF LRMP to ensure compliance with the ROD. This hierarchy of land allocations is described below.

At some locations on NFS- and BLM-managed lands, land allocations overlap. Standards and Guidelines for Congressionally Reserved Areas must be met first. Second, Riparian Reserve S&Gs apply and are added to S&Gs of other designated areas (e.g., Late Successional Reserves [LSR], matrix). For example, where Riparian Reserves occur within LSRs, both sets of S&Gs apply. In all land allocations, S&Gs in current plans apply where they are more restrictive or provide greater benefits to late-successional forest related species. For this project, two land allocations are applicable to BLM and NFS lands. These are:

- **Riparian Reserves** – Mainstem Trinity River and Trinity River tributaries and related areas associated with their respective floodplains, including fish-bearing streams, permanently flowing nonfish-bearing streams, intermittent streams, constructed ponds, lands and natural ponds and wetlands; and
- **Matrix (USFS)** – The matrix consists of those federal lands not subject to another land allocation.

The activities proposed by Reclamation under the auspices of the TRRP would occur along the mainstem of the Trinity River and tributaries of the Trinity River, which are located both below and above the Lewiston and Trinity dams. The Trinity River, South Fork Trinity River, North Fork Trinity River, and New River are federally designated as wild and scenic rivers. The Trinity River is also a state designated wild and scenic river. This evaluation focuses on Riparian Reserves as defined in the Redding RMP and STNF LRMP.

The following sections of this evaluation address the consistency of the TRRP's Proposed Action with the four components of the ACS and the nine ACS objectives described in Attachment B to the 1994 ROD and the 2024 NCIP.U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) 2024

2 Components of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy

2.1 Riparian Reserves (USFS) and Riparian Management Areas (BLM)

This evaluation focuses on Riparian Reserves as defined in the STNF LRMP and Riparian Management Areas in the NCIP. Watershed analyses have been completed by BLM (1995) and the STNF (FA and Shasta-Trinity National Forest 2005) for federal lands within the Trinity River corridor; these analyses did not modify the designated widths of the Riparian Reserves established in the 1994 ROD established by the S&Gs. The width of the riparian reserves essentially correlates with the floodplain of the Trinity River and its tributaries within the Project Activity Area and can extend beyond the floodplain to include riparian vegetation and functions that occur in upland areas. Table C-1 at the end of this appendix shows the S&Gs that were integrated into the project.

2.2 Key Watersheds

USFS manages four primary tier key watersheds in the upper Trinity River watershed. Three of these watersheds, the North Fork Trinity River, Canyon Creek, and the New River, are primarily associated with the Salmon-Trinity Alps Wilderness Area; the fourth watershed is the South Fork Trinity River. While key watershed are included in the proposed project, restoration actions may occur within the watershed without respect to key watershed designation.

2.3 Watershed Analysis

The BLM conducted watershed analyses for the lands within the mainstem Trinity River corridor (BLM 1995) and STNF have conducted watershed analyses for several watersheds (Appendix I of the EA). Any activities proposed within these riparian reserves will conform to the site-specific conditions established in the S&Gs to ensure consistency with the ACS.

2.4 Watershed Restoration

The Proposed Action is a comprehensive ecosystem restoration project intended to restore the physical processes and biological resources of the mainstem Trinity River and its tributaries. While some short-term impacts may occur to riparian-dependent species, the scale of the activities proposed by the TRRP, including project activities, ensures that restoration of ecological processes and functions will be consistent with the ACS.

2.5 Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives

The extensive geographical project area allows for planning and analysis of restoration actions on a large scale. Considering the effects this way allows us to forecast potential regional effects and find ways for actions to be complementary to one another or achieve more meaningful goals in focused areas. The following section evaluates the consistency of the Proposed Action with the nine ACS objectives listed in Attachment B of the ROD and Section 2.3.5.1 of the NCIP.

The lands managed by the Forest Service and BLM within the range of the northern spotted owl will be managed to:

1. *Maintain and restore the distribution, diversity, and complexity of watershed and landscape-scale features to ensure protection of the aquatic systems to which species, populations, and communities are uniquely adapted.*

The Proposed Action is intended to restore the watershed and landscape processes, specifically the alluvial and riparian functions, that have been impaired by construction of the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley Project and other human and natural disturbances throughout the watershed. The activities that are proposed on federal lands subject to the ACS are an integral part of the larger project and are intended to assist BLM and Forest Service in attaining this ACS objective. TRRP focuses on developing the diversity, complexity, and distribution of landscape-scale aquatic features in the Trinity River watershed. TRRP's partnership with the STNF and the Redding Office of BLM is expected to accelerate the pace and expand the scale of activities that would enable each agency and its partners to engage in implementing important restoration activities throughout the entire watershed. By controlling non-native invasive species and restoring important floodplain habitat along the Trinity River and its tributaries, species diversity and structural complexity would be maintained and restored on a landscape scale. The combined landscape-scale projects would improve the overall Trinity River watershed.

2. *Maintain and restore spatial and temporal connectivity within and between watersheds. Lateral, longitudinal, and drainage network connections include floodplains, wetlands, upslope areas, headwater tributaries, and intact refugia. These network connections must provide chemically and physically*

unobstructed routes to areas critical for fulfilling life history requirements of aquatic and riparian-dependent species.

The objective of the Proposed Action is to implement restoration projects throughout the watershed. Project activities, such as stream and floodplain restoration, removal of fish barriers, and riparian corridor enhancement and revegetation, would help to maintain and restore spatial and temporal connectivity within and between the HUC10 watersheds within the Project activity area. The extensive geographical project area defined in Figure 1-1 of the EA would allow project activities on a large scale that would maintain and restore the functional values of the Trinity River and its tributaries within the Project activity area. The TRRP, BLM, and the Forest Service have worked cooperatively through the years to identify and prioritize channel and stream rehabilitation projects. Projects to improve lateral connectivity and improve instream habitat complexity have been conducted on several reaches of the Trinity River. Continuing similar types of restoration activities would continue to improve and enhance watershed, floodplain, and aquatic habitat connectivity within and between the HUC 10 watersheds. Modifications of floodplains, removal of grade control structures and other fish barriers, construction of functional side-channel and off-channel habitat, and sediment augmentation are examples of restoring connectivity for a variety of aquatic and riparian-dependent species. The intent of the Proposed Action is to assist the BLM and the Forest Service in attaining this ACS objective.

3. *Maintain and restore the physical integrity of the aquatic system, including shorelines, banks and bottom configurations.*

A fundamental component of project activities would be to restore the bed, banks, and floodplain of the mainstem Trinity River and its tributaries. The modification of grade control, expansion of functional floodplain habitat, construction of side channels, efforts to enhance the coarse sediment supply, and placement of large wood and boulders that provide refugia habitat are examples of the activities intended to restore the physical integrity of the aquatic system. Disturbed and eroded stream banks would be restored and planted with riparian and wetland vegetation. Collectively, these efforts are designed to restore the alluvial habitat and associated riparian character of streams within the watershed. That along with continuity from one project to the next, cooperation among restoration partners can leverage to achieve more meaningful results. The Proposed Action would promote continuity from one project to the next with the implementation of several restoration activities each year. The intent of the Proposed Action is to assist the BLM and the Forest Service in attaining this ACS objective.

4. *Maintain and restore water quality necessary to support healthy riparian, aquatic, and wetland ecosystems. Where the responsible agency has the ability to influence water quality, it must remain within the range that maintains the biological, physical, and chemical integrity of the system and benefits survival, growth, reproduction, and migration of individuals composing aquatic and riparian communities.*

The Proposed Action includes a suite of instream and riparian corridor restoration activities that are designed to maintain, enhance, and restore instream processes to benefit aquatic species, riparian habitats, and water quality. Removal or retrofitting of small dams, diversions, flood gates, pilings, and legacy structures and realigning and/or rerouting channels around or through artificial waterbodies would improve freshwater circulation, flow, and water quality primarily by removing outdated in-stream structures. A component of the Proposed Action would be to rehabilitate eroding streambanks to improve water quality, shade conditions, and

large wood recruitment. Engineered streambanks would reduce input of fine sediment, enhance aquatic and riparian habitat, and improve water quality by integrating vegetation into bank protection measures.

Road maintenance, road rehabilitation, and road decommissioning would be conducted on private and public lands for the reduction of sediment into the mainstem and tributaries of the Trinity River. The road maintenance, road rehabilitation, and road decommissioning activity category would address locations along roadways with undersized, deteriorated, misaligned, or otherwise dysfunctional culverts or bridges that warrant replacement. By improving how these roads function, fine sediment supply to the Trinity River basin would decrease over time, improving water quality, fish passage, and instream habitat for salmonids and increasing the production potential of the watershed, which would ultimately benefit a range of ecological functions within the Trinity River basin. Challenges associated with increased average temperatures and precipitation extremes and a history of significant water diversions (including many illegal diversions still occurring on tributary streams) are limiting flow availability and contribute to warmer waters. By using water conservation measures, the Proposed Action would help increase water flows during the summer low flow period and throughout the hottest and driest part of the season.

TRRP, BLM and the Forest Service have worked cooperatively to ensure that Environmental Commitments are incorporated into the project activity descriptions as general protection measures and conservation measures to minimize effects on water quality (Appendix B of the Project EA). The Proposed Action would be consistent with the requirements of the BLM's Redding RMP and the STNF LRMP; it would therefore not prevent attainment of this ACS objective. Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act apply to all projects that area completed under the EA, and site-specific analysis for projects would be completed.

5. *Maintain and restore the sediment regime under which aquatic ecosystems evolved. Elements of the sediment regime include the timing, volume, rate, and character of sediment input, storage, and transport.*

A fundamental element of the TRRP is restoration of the sediment regime in a manner that enhances the alluvial character of the 40-mile reach of the Trinity River downstream of Lewiston Dam. One objective of the Proposed Action would be to restore continuous paths for wood dispersal, nutrient cycling, sediment transport, and movement of other vegetative material essential for productive aquatic habitat. The inclusion of large wood and boulder clusters would also increase the functional benefits of sediment augmentation. TRRP conducts site-specific sediment augmentation below Lewiston Dam regularly to infuse the stream with materials that would be present if not for the dams. This activity would continue along with the many other habitat restoration projects in the Trinity River. While there may be a change in the timing or volume of sediment input, site-specific sediment augmentation that would be proposed would assist BLM and the Forest Service in attainment of this ACS objective.

6. *Maintain and restore in-stream flows sufficient to create and sustain riparian, aquatic, and wetland habitats and to retain patterns of sediment, nutrient, and wood routing. The timing, magnitude, duration, and spatial distribution of peak, high, and low flows must be protected.*

The Proposed Action would result in improved stream flows where restoration and water conservation projects are completed; and in some cases may not influence in-stream flows. No modifications to the flow regime of the Trinity River or its tributaries are proposed; therefore, this ACS objective would be met.

7. *Maintain and restore the timing, variability, and duration of floodplain inundation and water table elevation in meadows and wetlands.*

Proposed activities that would modify the bed, banks, and floodplains of the Trinity River and its tributaries within the project activity area are designed to maintain and/or restore the hydrologic connection between the river and adjacent wetland/riparian habitat. By reducing the floodplain elevations, stabilizing and recontouring banks, and removing instream barriers, the existing flow regime would establish functional, connected wetland habitat adjacent to the Trinity River and its tributaries. Peak flow timing, variability, magnitude and duration of Trinity River flows are determined by the Trinity Management Council and advised by TRRP flow work group. The flow workgroup stays abreast of the needs associated with various restoration projects along the Trinity River and recommends flow attributes that enhance or compliment restoration project objectives. The Proposed Action could influence those decisions in the future based on the status of the multitude of instream restoration projects. The Trinity River's flows are managed to replicate natural conditions.

8. *Maintain and restore the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities in riparian areas and wetlands to provide adequate summer and winter thermal regulation, nutrient filtering, appropriate rates of surface erosion, bank erosion, and channel migration and to supply amounts and distributions of coarse woody debris sufficient to sustain physical complexity and stability.*

A fundamental objective of the TRRP is to restore the species composition and structural diversity of native plant communities along the mainstem Trinity River. The Proposed Action expands the geographic scope to include tributaries to the mainstem Trinity River. Instream habitat and floodplain restoration, large and small wood placement, bioengineered bank stabilization, aquatic, wetland, meadow, riparian, and upslope habitat enhancement would increase and improve species and structural diversity in the wetland and riparian plant communities, increase woody debris inputs, stabilize banks and decrease bank erosion and sediment being washed in the streams. Some project activities would reintroduce a diverse assemblage of native riparian vegetation and reduce the potential for non-native, invasive, and noxious plant species. Placement of large wood within and/or adjacent to stream banks would enhance channel complexity and edge habitat. The increase in woody riparian species would provide thermal regulation and maintain cooler water at the end of the summer and into the fall. The removal of instream barriers would promote a more functional fluvial system that would deliver natural bedload and woody debris supplies to augment development of instream habitats.

Many of the proposed activities would create or improve ecological functions and create or restore the functions of wetlands, meadows, streams, and riparian areas, including upslope watershed sites that could contribute sediment to streams or disrupt floodplain and riparian functions. Overall, natural recruitment of riparian communities supplemented by riparian planting efforts following restoration and bank stabilization increases the species and structural diversity of riparian habitat and helps regulate stream temperatures. Adding small and large wood to the floodplain and increasing floodplain connectivity will ensure that the Proposed Action meets this ACS objective.

9. *Maintain and restore habitat to support well-distributed populations of native plant, invertebrate, and vertebrate riparian-dependent species.*

A fundamental objective of the TRRP is to restore the aquatic, riparian, and upland habitat along the mainstem Trinity River. The Proposed Action expands the restoration activities to include tributaries to the mainstem

Trinity River. The project activities would create, rehabilitate, and improve aquatic and riparian habitat for riparian-dependent species. The proposed activities are designed to restore natural processes in the watershed. Collectively, project activities would generate geomorphic responses downstream that would improve the overall habitat enhancement objectives by reestablishing alluvial processes that were impaired by the construction and operation of the Trinity River Division or other anthropomorphic actions throughout the watershed. Proposed activities on federal lands subject to the ACS are an integral part of the overall objective of the TRRP and are intended to assist BLM and STNF in attaining this ACS objective. The changes and pressures of increased average temperatures and precipitation extremes and wildfires necessitate protecting and enhancing riparian and aquatic habitats and communities to become more resilient to future changes.

3 Conclusion

Based on this evaluation, BLM and the Forest Service find that the projects described in the NEPA decision document have been designed and would be constructed in a manner that does not prevent future attainment of and would help to achieve ACS objectives. The management actions incorporated into the Proposed Action would maintain, restore, or improve the existing condition in the short- and long-term, consistent with the intent of the ACS. Table 3-1 outlines the Standards and Guidelines for management within the riparian reserves, and Table 3-2 outlines BLM's management objectives for management.

Table 3-1. Riparian Reserves Applicable Standards and Guidelines.

S&G #	Standard and Guideline
All Land Allocations – Survey and Manage	
2	Survey prior to ground disturbing activities. (Surveys not required as discussed in Appendix E)
Riparian Reserves Timber Management	
TM 1-c	Apply silvicultural practices for Riparian Reserves to control stocking, reestablish and manage stands, and acquired desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain ACS objectives.
Riparian Reserves Roads Management	
RF-1	Federal, state, and county agencies should cooperate to achieve consistency in road design, operation, and maintenance necessary to attain ACS objectives.7
RF-2	For each existing or planned road, meet ACS objectives by applying RF-2a through RF-2f below
RF-2a	Minimizing road and landing locations in Riparian Reserves.
RF-2b	Completing watershed analyses (including appropriate geotechnical analyses) prior to construction of new roads or landings in Riparian Reserves.
RF-2c	Preparing road design criteria, elements, and standards that govern construction and reconstruction.
RF-2d	Preparing operation and maintenance criteria that govern road operation, maintenance, and management.

S&G #	Standard and Guideline
RF-2e	Minimizing disruption of natural hydrologic flow paths, including diversion of streamflow and interception of surface and subsurface flow.
RF-2f	Restricting sidecasting as necessary to prevent the introduction of sediment to streams.
RF-3	Determine the influence of each road on the ACS objectives through watershed analysis. Meet ACS objectives by applying RF-3a through RF-3c
RF-3a	Reconstructing roads and associated drainage features that pose a substantial risk.
RF-3b	Prioritizing reconstruction based on current and potential impact to riparian resources and the ecological value of the riparian resources affected.
RF-3c	Closing and stabilizing or obliterating and stabilizing roads based on the ongoing and potential effects to ACS objectives and considering short-term and long-term transportation needs.
RF-4	New culverts, bridges and other stream crossings shall be constructed, and existing culverts, bridges and other stream crossings determined to pose a substantial risk to riparian conditions will be improved, to accommodate at least the 100-year flood, including associated bedload and debris. Priority for upgrading will be based on the potential impact and the ecological value of the riparian resources affected. Crossings will be constructed and maintained to prevent diversion of streamflow out of the channel and down the road in the event of crossing failure.
RF-5	Minimize sediment delivery to streams from roads. Out sloping of the roadway surface is preferred, except in cases where out sloping would increase sediment delivery to streams or where out sloping is unfeasible or unsafe. Route road drainage away from potentially unstable channels, fills, and hillslopes.
RF-7	Develop and implement a Road Management Plan or a Transportation Management Plan that will meet the ACS objectives. As a minimum, this plan shall include provisions for the following activities:
RF-7a	Inspections and maintenance during storm events.
RF-7b	Inspections and maintenance after storm events.
RF-7c	Road operation and maintenance, giving high priority to identifying and correcting road drainage problems that contribute to degrading riparian resources.
RF-7d	Traffic regulation during wet periods to prevent damage to riparian resources.
RF-7e	Establish the purpose of each road by developing the Road Management Objective.
Riparian Reserves Recreation Management	
RM-1	New recreational facilities within Riparian Reserves, including trails and dispersed sites, should be designed to not prevent meeting ACS objectives. Construction of these facilities should not prevent future attainment of these objectives. For existing recreation facilities within Riparian Reserves, evaluate and mitigate impact to ensure that these do not prevent, and to the extent practicable contribute to, attainment of ACS objectives.

S&G #	Standard and Guideline
LH-3	Locate new support facilities outside Riparian Reserves. For existing support facilities inside Riparian Reserves that are essential to proper management, provide recommendations to FERC that ensure ACS objectives are met. Where these objectives cannot be met, provide recommendations to FERC that such support facilities should be relocated. Existing support facilities that must be located in the Riparian Reserves will be located, operated, and maintained with an emphasis to eliminate adverse effects that retard or prevent attainment of ACS objectives.
LH-4	For activities other than surface water developments, issue leases, permits, rights-of-way, and easements to avoid adverse effects that retard or prevent attainment of ACS objectives. Adjust existing leases, permits, rights-of-way, and easements to eliminate adverse effects that retard or prevent the attainment of ACS objectives. If adjustments are not effective, eliminate the activity. Priority for modifying existing leases, permits, rights-of-way and easements will be based on the actual or potential impact and the ecological value of the riparian resources affected.
Riparian Reserves General Riparian Area Management	
RA-2	Fell trees in Riparian Reserves when they pose a safety risk. Keep felled trees onsite when needed to meet coarse woody debris objectives.

Table 3-2. BLM NCIP Management Objectives for Riparian Reserves and Aquatic Resources (BLM 2024).

Objective #	Description
Riparian Management Areas	
RIP-FIS-MA-01	Riparian management areas consist of the stream and the area on each side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of riparian vegetation, or to a distance equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance (600 feet total, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest.
RIP-FIS-MA-02	Fish-bearing streams are distinguished from non-fish bearing streams by the presence of any species of fish for any duration. Many intermittent streams may be used as spawning and rearing streams, refuge areas during flood events in larger rivers and streams or travel routes for fish emigrating from lakes. In these instances, the riparian management area boundaries for fish-bearing streams will apply to those sections of the intermittent stream used by the fish.
Fish-bearing Streams	
RIP-FIS-MA-01	Riparian management areas consist of the stream and the area on each side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of riparian vegetation, or to a distance equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance (600 feet total, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest.
RIP-FIS-MA-02	Fish-bearing streams are distinguished from non-fish bearing streams by the presence of any species of fish for any duration. Many intermittent streams may be used as spawning and rearing streams, refuge areas during flood events in larger rivers and streams or travel routes for fish emigrating from lakes. In these instances, the riparian management area boundaries for fish-bearing streams will apply to those sections of the intermittent stream used by the fish.
Permanently Flowing (Perennial) Non-Fish-bearing Streams	

Objective #	Description
RIP-PFN-MA-01	Riparian management areas consist of the stream and the area on each side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of riparian vegetation, or to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 150 feet slope distance (300 feet total, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest.
Wetlands Greater than 1 Acre, Constructed Ponds, Lakes, and Reservoirs	
RIP-WPR-MA-01	Riparian management areas consist of the body of water or wetland and the area to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to the extent of seasonally saturated soil, or the extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas, or to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 150 feet slope distance from the edge of the wetland greater than 1 acre or the maximum pool elevation of constructed ponds and reservoirs, whichever is greatest.
Lakes and Natural Ponds	
RIP-LPN-MA-01	Riparian management areas consist of the body of water and the area to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to the extent of seasonally saturated soil, or to the extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas, or to a distance equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance, whichever is greatest.
Seasonally Flowing or Intermittent (ephemeral) Streams, Wetlands Less than 1 Acre, and Unstable and Potentially Unstable Areas	
RIP-SFI-MA-01:	This category applies to features with high variability in size and site-specific characteristics. At a minimum, the riparian management area must include: • The extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas (including earthflows) • The stream channel and extend to the top of the inner gorge • The stream channel or wetland and the area from the edges of the stream channel or wetland to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation • Extension from the edges of the stream channel to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 100 feet slope distance, whichever is greatest. Intermittent streams are defined as any nonpermanent flowing drainage feature having a definable channel and evidence of annual scour or deposition. This includes what are sometimes referred to as ephemeral streams if they meet these two physical criteria.

References

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