



Creating Functional Water Environments

Potential Benefits of Explicit Riparian Management

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Riparian Functions

Beneficial Functions of the Riparian Zone	
Biotic- Nutrients	Food Supply Nutrient Cycling
Heat	Thermal Controls on Water Temperature Microclimate
Water	Hydromodification
Wo od	Streambed Modification (pools & spawning gravels) Cover
Sediment	Surface Runoff Stream-Adjacent Landsliding Bank and Channel Stabilization















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Longitudinal Variation

Managing for longitudinal variation requires an understanding of how different ecosystem processes act to form and maintain habitats throughout the channel network.







Longitudinal controls on exchange functions AND lateral controls are important in maintaining the watershed-scale ecosystem structure that maintains aquatic habitats.





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Width AND Length

Process Cascades







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Longitudinal Variation

• River Continuum v. Network Dynamics

 Geomorphic Context is Important

Biological Hotspots





Longitudinal Process Variations





Disturbances are an important mechanism for establishing conditions that support riparian functions

- Stand structure
- Vegetative succession
- Wood recruitment
- Nutrient exchange
- Thermal regulation



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Riparian zones can buffer a stream from direct management impacts, <u>and they alter the</u> <u>disturbance regimes</u> in ways that can affect both short-term and long-term evolution of riparian areas.





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Width AND Length AND Process AND Structure



General Themes

Spatial context is important, as it influences functional response patterns.







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Width AND Length AND Process AND Location AND Structure AND Spatial Context





There are dynamic interactions among and between riparian exchange functions that alter the importance of exchange functions for any particular setting.

Dynamic Functions









Active and strategic riparian management can limit risks and benefit salmonids

- temperature regimes
- ecological productivity
- woody debris recruitment
- fuel loads and other disturbance risks
- Etc





Active Management is

- More immediate
- More directed
- More explicit
- More effective???

than Passive Management