

Stream Bank

The shape and appearance of the stream bank in your riparian zone can supply you with more clues about the forces of erosion that are at work in the zone. You will also be able to get some ideas about whether your zone is providing habitat for fish and other aquatic animals. Stand at the 0 transect point and look upstream and downstream. First, observe how much vegetation covers the banks of the stream; then note other characteristics of the stream bank. Check the appropriate boxes in each section of the data sheet.

Stream Bank Data Sheet	
Which description best fits the bank of your stream? (check one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the stream bank surfaces are covered by vegetation. <input type="checkbox"/> About half of the stream bank surfaces are covered by vegetation. <input type="checkbox"/> Very little of the stream bank surfaces are covered by vegetation. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the stream bank surfaces are covered by vegetation.
Whether or not the stream bank is vegetated, what other characteristics apply to it? (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Eroded <input type="checkbox"/> Rocky <input type="checkbox"/> Trampled (vegetation broken or crushed) <input type="checkbox"/> Compacted (hardened from being pressed together) <input type="checkbox"/> Undercut

