

Stream Buffers: Functions and Applications in California Streams

Presentation by:

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A. BACKGROUND AND SCIENTIFIC CONTEXT

1. Definition of Terms
2. Evolution of thinking/approach to stream buffers/setbacks, mgmt
3. What is the current problem in application of buffers/setbacks...

B. Hydrologic/Ecologic Function of Stream Buffers

4. Watershed system and stream network
5. Upper watershed hillslopes and tributaries
6. Middle watershed valleys and stream
7. Downstream floodplains, deltas, and baylands
8. Coastal California Mediterranean Systems and Variability
9. Moderation of peak flows
10. Sediment and nutrient filtration/reduction
11. Fecal coliform removal
12. Moderation of stream temperature/climate
13. Maintenance of channel form and grade
14. Salmonid Habitat
15. Reptile/Amphibian Habitats

16. Bird Habitats/Diversity
17. Mammal Habitat/Diversity
18. Plant Diversity
19. General riparian ecosystem function
20. Summary of buffer widths (graph)

C. Examples of local ordinances

21. Napa County
22. Contra Costa County

D. What makes for good policy

23. Based on science and understanding physical/biological system
24. Directed towards goals/objectives that make sense for the watershed/region
25. Some level of flexibility in application (not one size fits all)
26. Acceptance in public and planning realms