

This document is developed for engineers, block planners, prescribing professionals, and harvest supervision. The purpose is to primarily focus on S6 stream management and S5 have also been included.

S6 streams are ecologically important within a watershed because they conservatively represent 50-95% of the stream length (wetted area) within an entire watershed. They are also highly variable in terms of stream width, volume of flow (L/s) and flow duration (ephemeral, seasonal, perennial). Overall importance may vary according to the connectivity of a stream to aquatic environments downslope.

In consideration of approved work practices or riparian management area development consider the following guidance:

1. The wider the stream the higher the management emphasis should be. For convenience, four width categories are used in the accompanying table but recognize that width is only one measure of stream size. Ultimately it is the volume of water transported that is of most concern.
2. A higher management emphasis is also recommended for streams that flow for longer periods of time. Perennial streams are defined as streams that flow >90% of the year, seasonal streams flow 20-90% of the year, while ephemeral streams flow <20% of the year.

| Non Fish Stream Riparian Management Emphasis | | | | |
|--|------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Flow Character | Stream Width (m) | | | |
| | 0.1-1.0 | 1.1-2.0 | 2.1-3.0 | >3.1 |
| Ephemeral | low | low | moderate | moderate |
| Seasonal | low | moderate | high | high |
| Perennial | moderate | high | high | high |

- A) **Low management emphasis** indicates clear-cutting to stream edge will be common practice while maintaining designated stream crossings, 5 m machine-free zones, and minimizing sediment delivery sources and CWD inputs into the stream itself.
 - B) **Moderate management emphasis** does not preclude option A) but should focus on retaining all non-merchantable conifers and deciduous trees, vegetation and understory plant communities within 5 meters of the stream bank. There should be greater emphasis on minimizing or eliminating any sediment sources and CWD inputs into the streams itself.
 - C) **High management emphasis** does not preclude option B for in-block streams, but the primary focus would be on increased retention along streams by 1) cutting these streams out of the cut-blocks, 2) co-locating them in WTR's or retention areas, or 3) establishing wind-firm retention trees along the streams (>= 10 trees per 100 meters). Any retained vegetation needs to be wind-firm to achieve riparian retention objectives within the RMA. Minimize sediment delivery sources and CWD inputs into the streams.
3. Recognize and consider these factors for riparian management strategies and practices. All direct tributaries to fish bearing waters have a high management emphasis.

Endorsement;

FMLT Co-chair Andrew Ashford / Date

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North Island Central Coast Resource District Forest Management Leadership Team