Condition + Encroachment Reporting Sheet: RIVERS and STREAMS

River Condition Assessment (RCA) + Encroachment results for: Priority rivers, Other rivers and streams, Canals

Site name/location:	1 Field Cottage, Eaton Scoton, PE19 8HA	**Unique river section reference:**	
GPS of MoRPh5	TL 17078 59522	**River section length:**	50m

Rivers and streams form naturally draining networks within the wider landscape.
A long history of channel modification and artificial water body creation has led to widespread loss of naturally formed and functioning habitats.

The River Condition Assessment (RCA) method requires one or more MoRPh5 sub-reach sample(s) for a longer length of channel, the river(or canal) section, that has consistent condition throughout and is represented by a single line within the Biodiversity Metric tool.

This sheet provides information about the full river (or canal) section length based on a site walkover plus representative RCA (MoRPh5) results for this section.

RCA River Type and Habitat Description for full river section (from walkover survey)

Duloe Brook borders the northern end of the site.The left and right hand bank comprises of garden lawn and residential properties within 10m. Both banks are steep The riverbed is comprised of a combination of sand and gravel with minor cobble. areas of boulder are present however this is likely a result of human activity due to residing so close to urban developments. Aquatic vegetation within the stream is primarily absent however this may be due to the time of year the survey was undertaken.

Condition Assessment Criteria		RCA Index values	Notes / Justification
RCA INDEX ID	**RCA INDEX NAME**	**Insert values -4 to 0 OR 0 to 4; Highlight those >2 OR <-2**	**Explain where significant, the influence of high/low RCA indices on overall river condition**
BANK TOP			
B1	Bank top vegetation structure	2	This scores positively due to the natural trees/ scrub habitat on the right and left bank top
B2	Bank top tree feature richness	0	
B3	Bank top water-related features	0	
B4	*Bank top NNIPS cover*	0	
B5	*Bank top managed ground cover*	-2	Left and right hand bank top consists of vegetated garden (regularly mown garden lawn).
BANK FACE			
C1	Bank face riparian vegetation structure	1	The banks consist predominantly of tall and short grasses, shrubs and trees. Garden lawn dominates the left and right hand bank
C2	Bank face tree feature richness	1	Tree presence along both banks
C3	Bank face natural bank profile extent	0	This scores positively due to the presence of steep banks. Vegetation growth restricted view of bank shape.
C4	Bank face natural bank profile richness	0	
C5	Bank face natural bank material richness	1	Dominated by earth
C6	Bank face bare sediment extent	1	Bare earth present along banks
C7	*Bank face artificial bank profile extent*	0	
C8	*Bank face reinforcement extent*	0	
C9	*Bank face reinforcement material severity*	0	
C10	*Bank face NNIPS cover*	0	
CHANNEL MARGIN			
D1	Channel margin aquatic vegetation extent	0	no aqatic vegetation present
D2	Channel margin aquatic morphotype richness	0	
D3	Channel margin physical feature extent	1	

D4	Channel margin physical feature richness	1	
D5	*Channel margin artificial features*	0	
CHANNEL BED			
E1	Channel aquatic morphotype richness	0	
E2	Channel bed tree features richness	1	Occasional trailing branches within the channel
E3	Channel bed hydraulic features richness	0	
E4	Channel bed natural features extent	0	
E5	Channel bed natural features richness	0	
E6	Channel bed material richness	3	Mixture of sand and gravel with some cobble
E7	*Channel bed siltation*	-2	patchy silt layer within gravel
E8	*Channel bed reinforcement extent*	0	
E9	*Channel bed reinforcement severity*	0	
E10	*Channel bed artificial features severity*	0	
E11	*Channel bed NNIPS extent*	0	
E12	*Channel bed filamentous algae extent*	0	

Overview of RCA and river section assessment

River Condition Assessment PRELIMINARY SCORE:	**0.324**	**River Type and class bands:**	**F -Straight/Sinuous, coarsest CO, average GP**
River Shape index:	**1.064**	**Is the river channel OVERDEEP?** *If yes, what supporting evidence is provided?*	**No**
River Condition Assessment FINAL CLASS:	**Fairly Poor**	**IS THE RCA FINAL CLASS MODIFIED ?** *If yes, why and what supporting evidence is provided?*	**No**

Summary of RCA results (and Encroachment where applicable) with recommendations for improvements

The watercourse is resulting in fairly poor condition. Positive scores are largely for the achannel bed richness, natural vegetation along both banks and bank tops and steep sloping banks. Negative indicators are for the artificial ground cover (vegetated garden) along both banks and for the channel bed siltation.

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve the river condition score

As the brook is outside of the site boundary and not owned by the associated development, enhancements to the watercourse is limited as vegetation richness along bank face and bank top are already variable. Additional trees and shrubs can be planted along bank top to increase natural vegetation cover.