

Climate Change Impacts on Stream Restoration

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What Do We Know About Stream Morphology?

Streams and floodplains adjust through erosion and deposition in response to:

- **Boundary conditions**
- **Forcing functions**



Boundary Conditions *Resistance to Erosion*

1. Natural: Soil and rock strengthened by vegetation
2. Artificial: Rock, concrete, metal, plastic, fiber



Forcing Functions: *Hydraulic Action*

1. Water from the watershed (*hydrology*)
2. Sediment supplied from upstream and locally



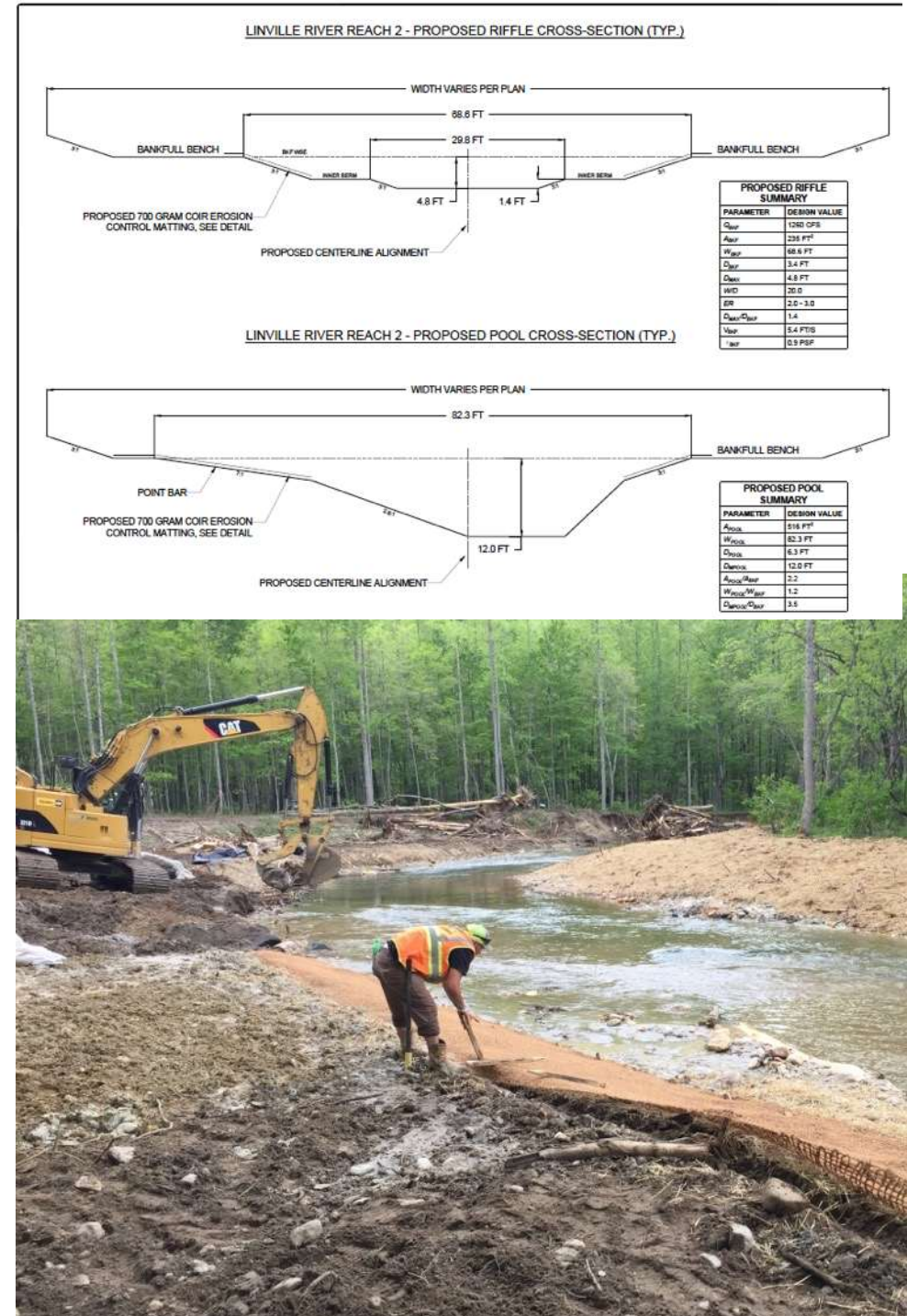
What is Stream (Morphology) Restoration?

1. Adjusting boundary conditions and forcing functions to achieve sustainable equilibrium
2. Planning for an uncertain future



Certainties: Stream (Morphology) Restoration

1. Design parameters are uncertain; therefore all projects have risk
2. Construction and vegetation will occur during bad weather
3. Adaptive management will be required



Risk in Stream Restoration?

Risk Definition: Potential failures having negative impacts as a part of deficiencies or flaws in design or engineering.



What is Risk in Stream Restoration?

- Erosion and/or deposition
- Infrastructure threats
- Ecological functions sub-optimal
- Human disappointment



I got a call from a resident adjacent to MAFC, claims design is flawed or contractor is really bad. He wanted to let me know the actual stream bed was not consistent throughout. There were areas that were holding more water than others..... no joke....

How Do We Reduce Risk in Stream Restoration?

1. Boundary Conditions: *Soil Strengthening*

- Earth (soil, rock)
- Artificial supplements (concrete, plastic, fiber)
- Vegetation (bio-engineering)

2. Forcing Functions: *Hydraulic Force Reductions*

- Watershed hydrology (retention, LID)
- Shear stress (depth, slope): **FLOODPLAIN**
- Sediment supply (stream power)



Reducing Risk: *Boundary Conditions*

Soil Strengthening:

- Wood Toe Revetment,
- Matting
- Vegetation



Reducing Risk: *Forcing Functions*

Hydraulic Force
Reductions:

- Watershed hydrology (retention, LID)
- Shear stress (depth, slope): **FLOODPLAIN**
- Sediment supply (stream power)

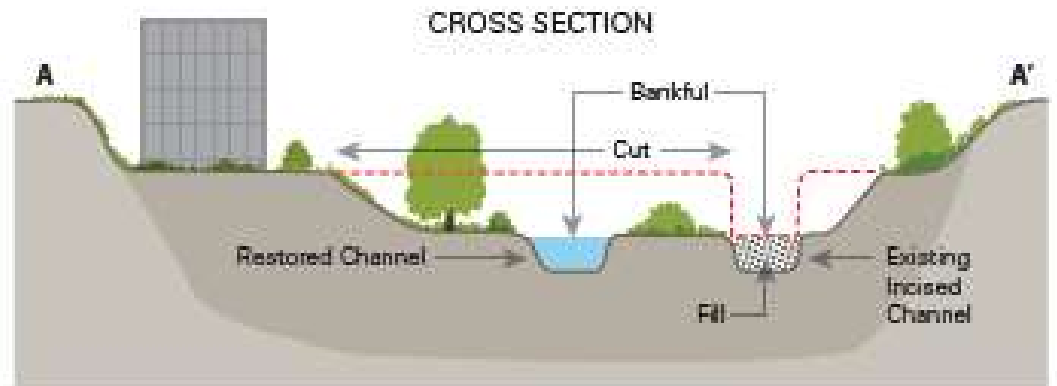
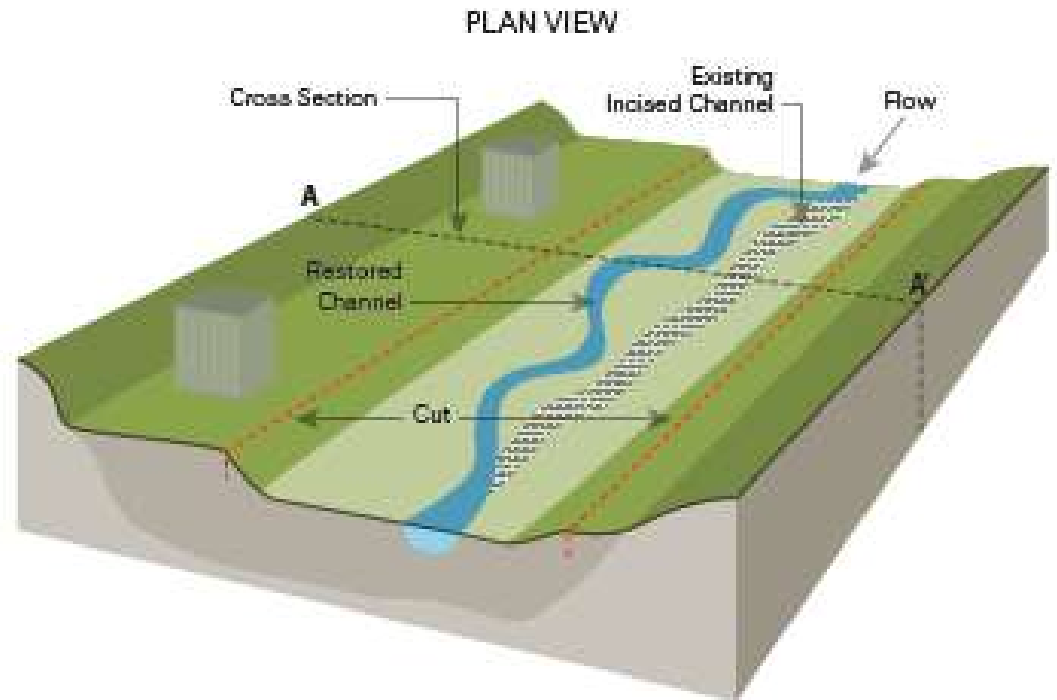
***When in Doubt,
Spread it Out!***



Reducing Risk: *Forcing Functions*

Floodplain
Expansion for
Shear Stress
Reduction

*When in Doubt,
Spread it Out!*



Harman, W., R. Starr. 2011. Natural Channel Design Review Checklist. US Fish and Wildlife Service, Chesapeake Bay Field Office, Annapolis, MD and US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, Wetlands Division. Washington, D.C. EPA 843-B-12-005

Stream Restoration in an Urban Tributary: Morrisville Aquatic and Fitness Center, Morrisville, NC

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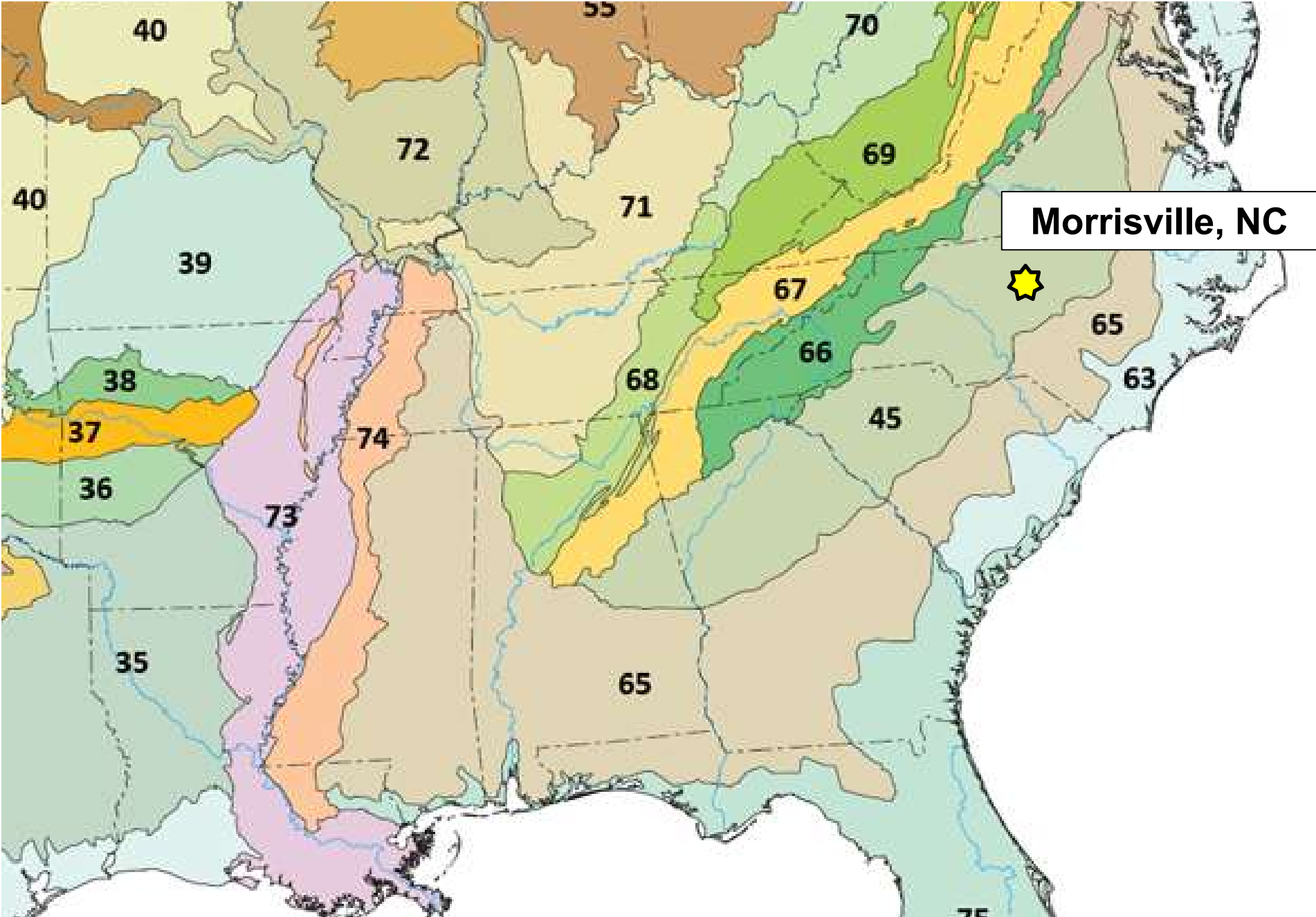
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Morrisville
Live connected. Live well.

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Project Location (EPA Level III Ecoregions)



UT Crabtree Creek, MAFC, Morrisville, NC

- Urban headwater stream in Neuse River Basin
- Drainage Area = 0.2 square miles



Stream Problems

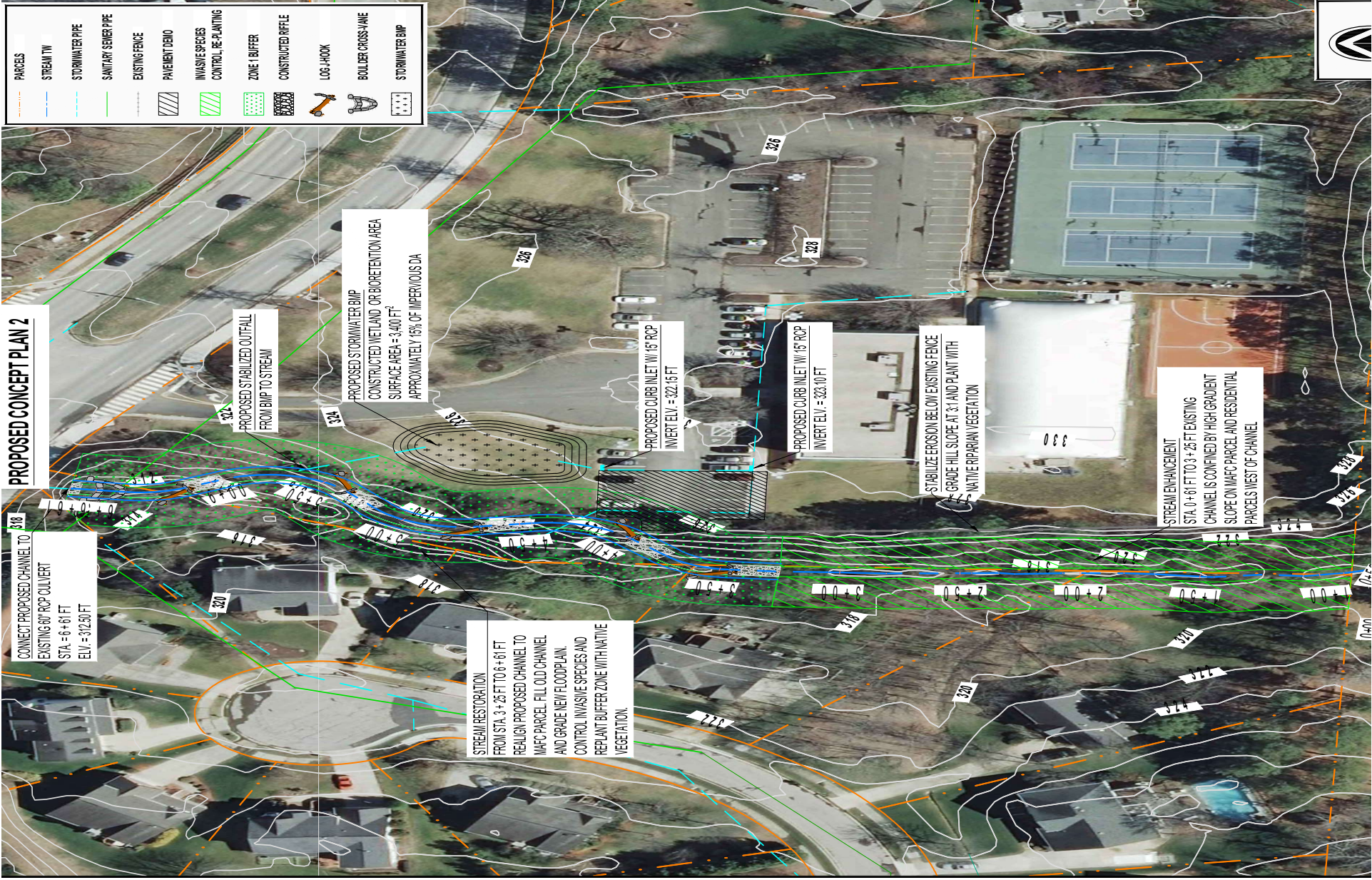
- Erosion
- Infrastructure
- Vegetation



MAFC Opportunities

- Stream Restoration
- Outfall Stabilization
- Stormwater BMP
- Education





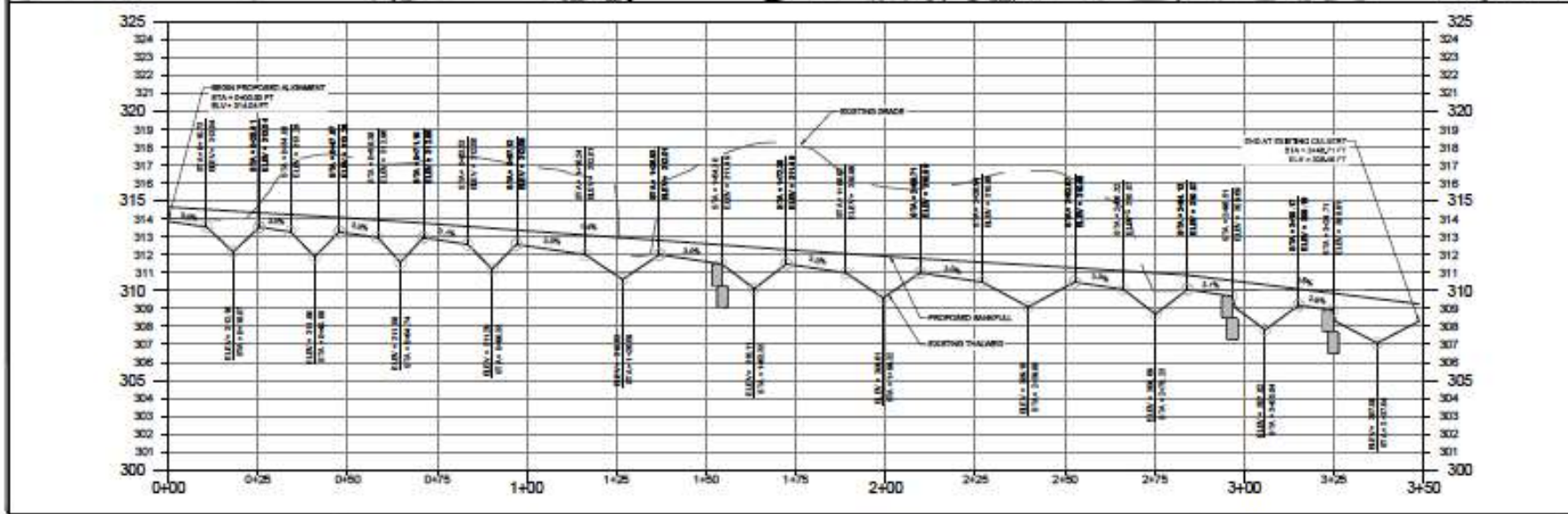
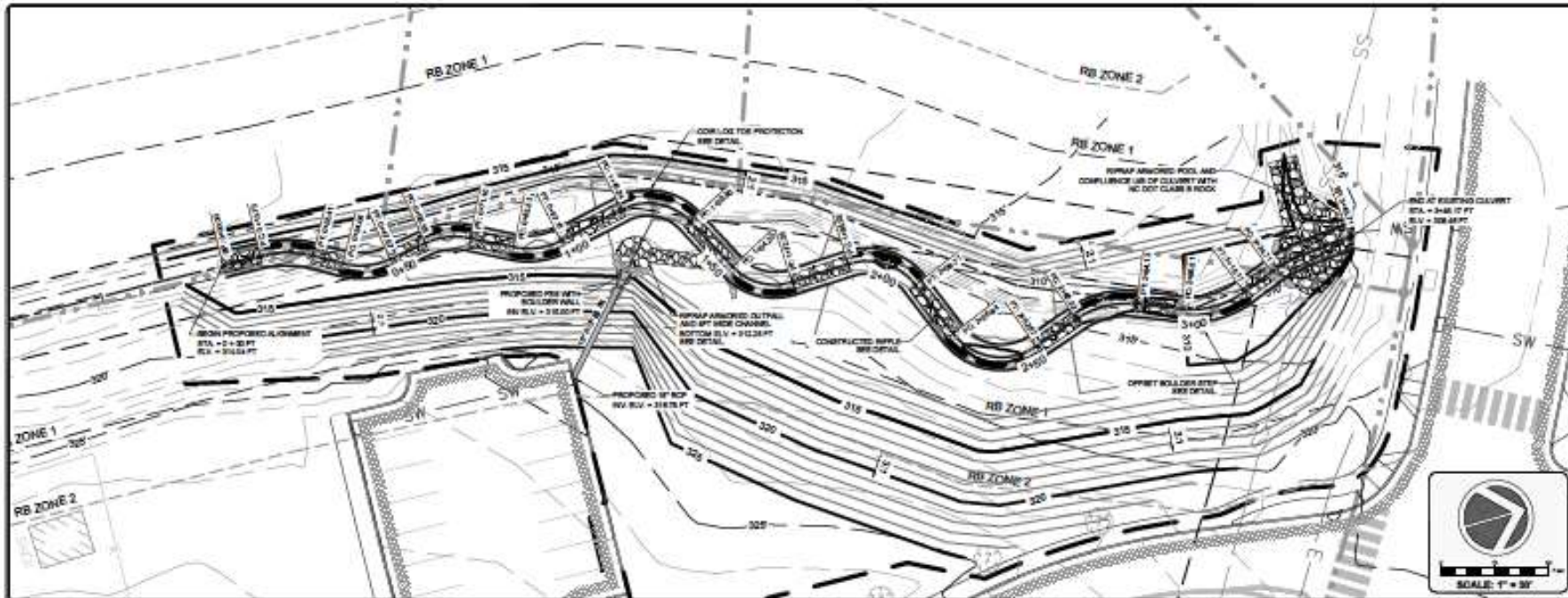
Evaluating Alternative Solutions

- **MCD**A: *Multiple-Criteria Decision Analysis*
- Consider stakeholder input & implementation factors (constraints, cost, timing, practicality)
- Evaluate alternatives based on **Objectives**:
 - Risk Management (Safety, Infrastructure, Flooding)
 - Ecosystem Functions (Habitats, Water Quality, Floodplains, Buffer)
 - Stream Stability (Streambanks, Equilibrium, Sed Trans)
 - Community (Stormwater, Aesthetics, Access & Education)

Multiple-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA)

Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA): Morrisville Aquatics and Fitness Center, Morrisville, NC	Risk Management			Ecosystem Function Objectives				Stream Stability Objectives			Community Objectives			Length of Project (ft)	Cost Estimate (\$)	Unit Cost (\$/ft)	MCDA Matrix Score	MCDA Score per \$	MCDA Rank
	Safety	Infrastructure Protection	Flooding	Aquatic Habitats	Water Quality	Floodplain Functions	Native Riparian Buffer	Streambank Stability	Natural Equilibrium Channel	Balanced Shear Stresses	Watershed Protection	Aesthetics	Access and Education						
Objective Weighting Factor (0 to 3)	3	3	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						
Option 1. Plant Buffer and Manage Invasives, stabilize outfall	0	2	0	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	2	3	2	583	\$ 44,358	\$ 76	33	0.43	1
Option 2. Realign unstable reach, stormwater BMP, maintain existing driveway	5	5	1	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	583	\$226,789	\$ 389	114	0.29	2
Option 3. Realign unstable reach, larger stormwater BMP, relocate driveway	5	5	1	4	5	4	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	583	\$305,951	\$ 525	119	0.23	3
Option 4. Realign maximum reach length, larger stormwater BMP, relocate driveway	5	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	583	\$428,549	\$ 735	128	0.17	4

Design Plan for Bid: March, 2018



Construction: *June - August, 2018*



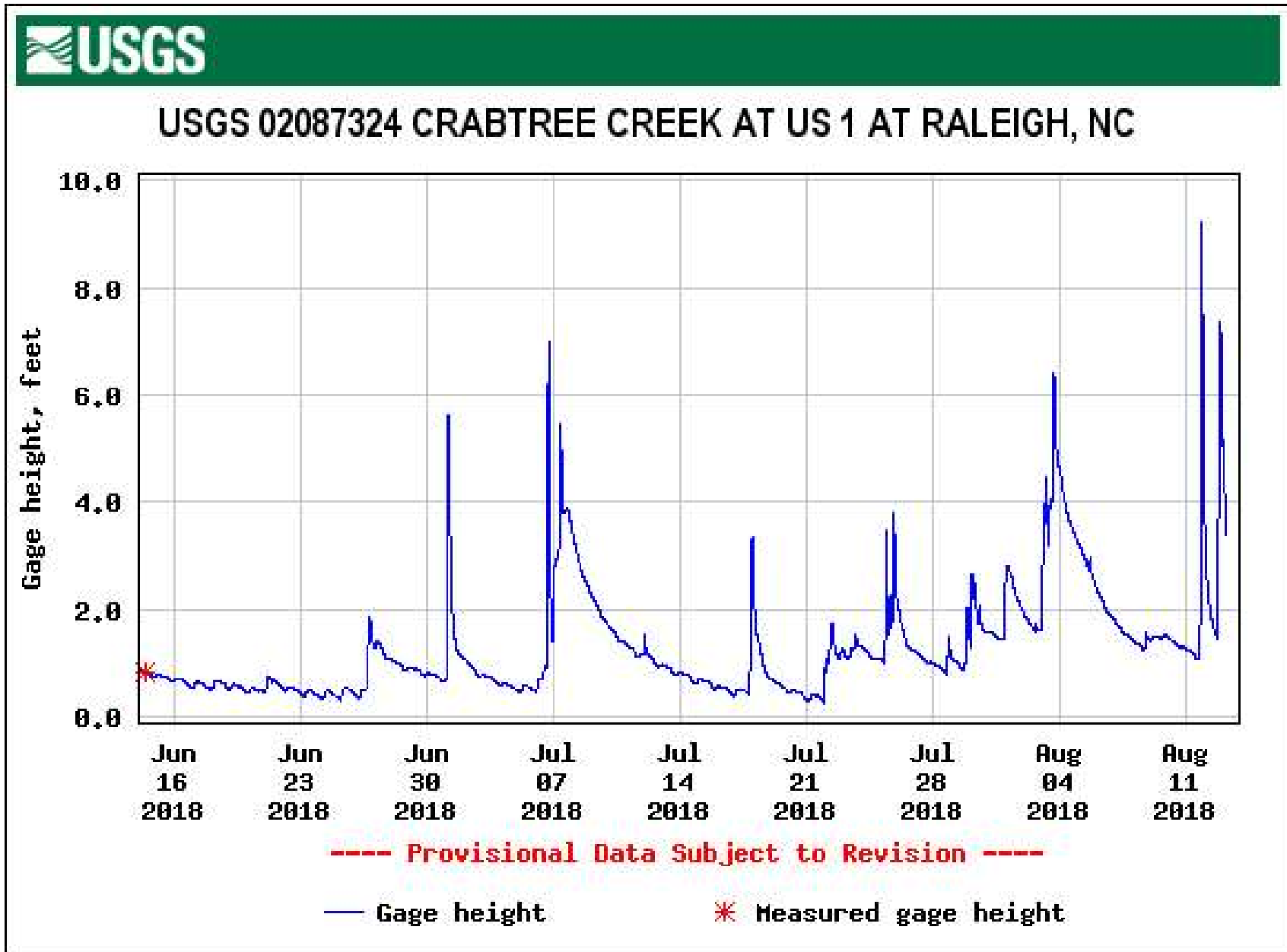
Construction: *June - August, 2018*



Construction: *June - August, 2018*



Flow Conditions: *June - August, 2018*



Construction: *June - August, 2018*





Summary: Risk Management

Boundary conditions (vegetation)

Forcing functions:

- Watershed hydrology
- **Floodplain**
- Local shear stress
- Sediment supply



*Thank you,
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