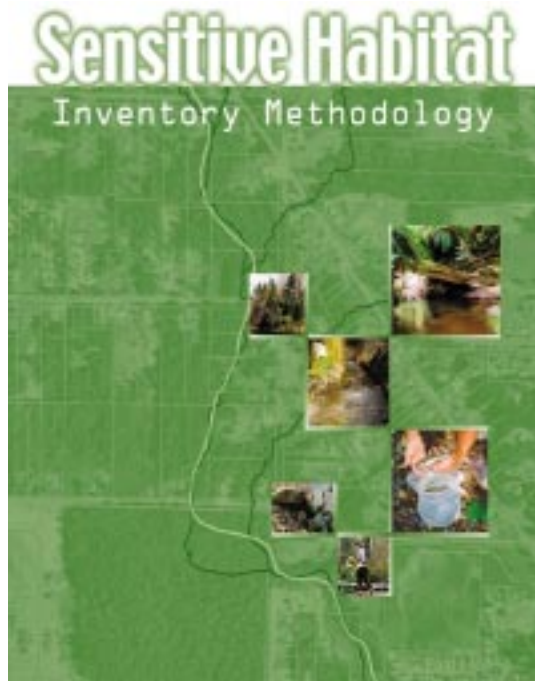


Document No.: 13

Sensitive Habitat Inventory and Mapping: Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Mapping

Citation: Mason, B.C. and R. Knight. In preparation Sensitive Habitat Inventory and Mapping: Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Mapping Procedures for Communities in B.C. Module 4 – Crosssections and Riparian Areas. Module 8 – Impervious Surfaces BC Ministry of Fisheries and BC Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks. Victoria, B.C.



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Abstract: Methods incorporating TFW monitoring methods for standardized fish, habitat and riparian baseline inventories in urban and rural watersheds. Objective is to identify, inventory, and map all water, fish presence, riparian habitat, sensitive habitats, and

important features. Includes field surveying and mapping techniques to allow data to be incorporated into a provincial multi-agency GIS system. Included is a method for measuring imperviousness, used as an indicator of cumulative water resource impacts. Basic GIS skills and equipment (ArcView) are assumed. The methods do not address issues related to evaluating restoration and enhancement potential. These methods are being used in B.C. s interim procedures while a standard is developed through the Resource Inventory Committee, a multi-discipline, multi-agency committee of inventory specialists.

Target Application: Management & Research

Suitable for Volunteers: Yes, with training, or if supervised by experienced personnel

Training Required: Yes

Available? Yes,

Where? Being developed

Note: A basic understanding of stream ecology and ecological principles are recommended. For the aquatic and riparian modules recommended by the authors and agencies are: B.C. – based RIC training, certification in Global Positioning Systems use, fish habitat field procedures and data compilation.

Monitoring Focus: Fish, habitat and riparian baseline inventories in urban and rural watersheds. Objective is to identify, inventory, and map all water, fish presence, riparian habitat, sensitive habitats, and other important features. Includes an impervious surface module, methods to monitor gravel composition, gravel scour, and photodocumentation techniques.

Geographic Scale: Basin, sub-basin, stream reach, project site

Methods: Office & Field

Level of Data Quality: Level 3, potentially Level 4

Equipment and Tools (list): Included in each module

Data Forms: No, however, data dictionary is provided in the document.

Examples of Filled-in Data Forms: Not provided

Key references: Provided in the document