

**1.3 REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI) - Flowcharts**

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## REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI) - Flowcharts (cont.)

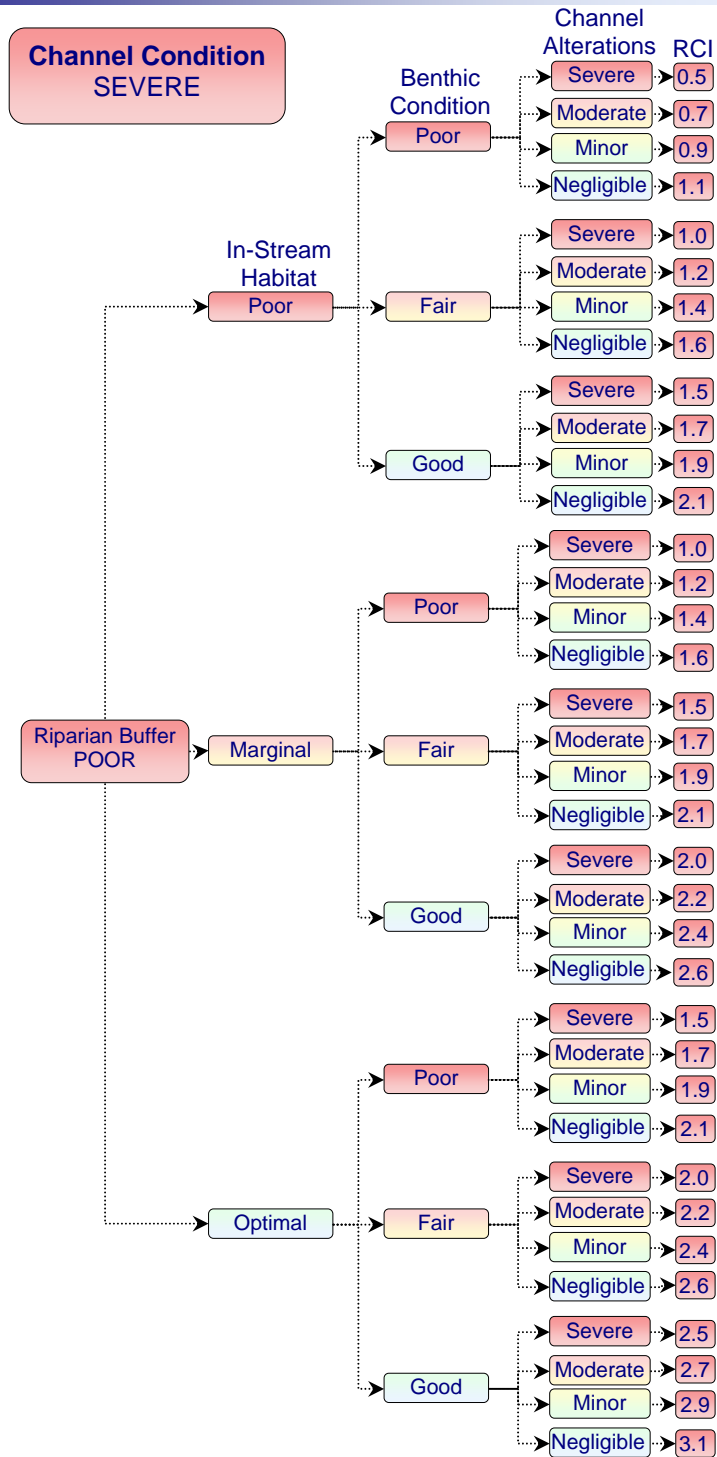
### RCI Computation Summary

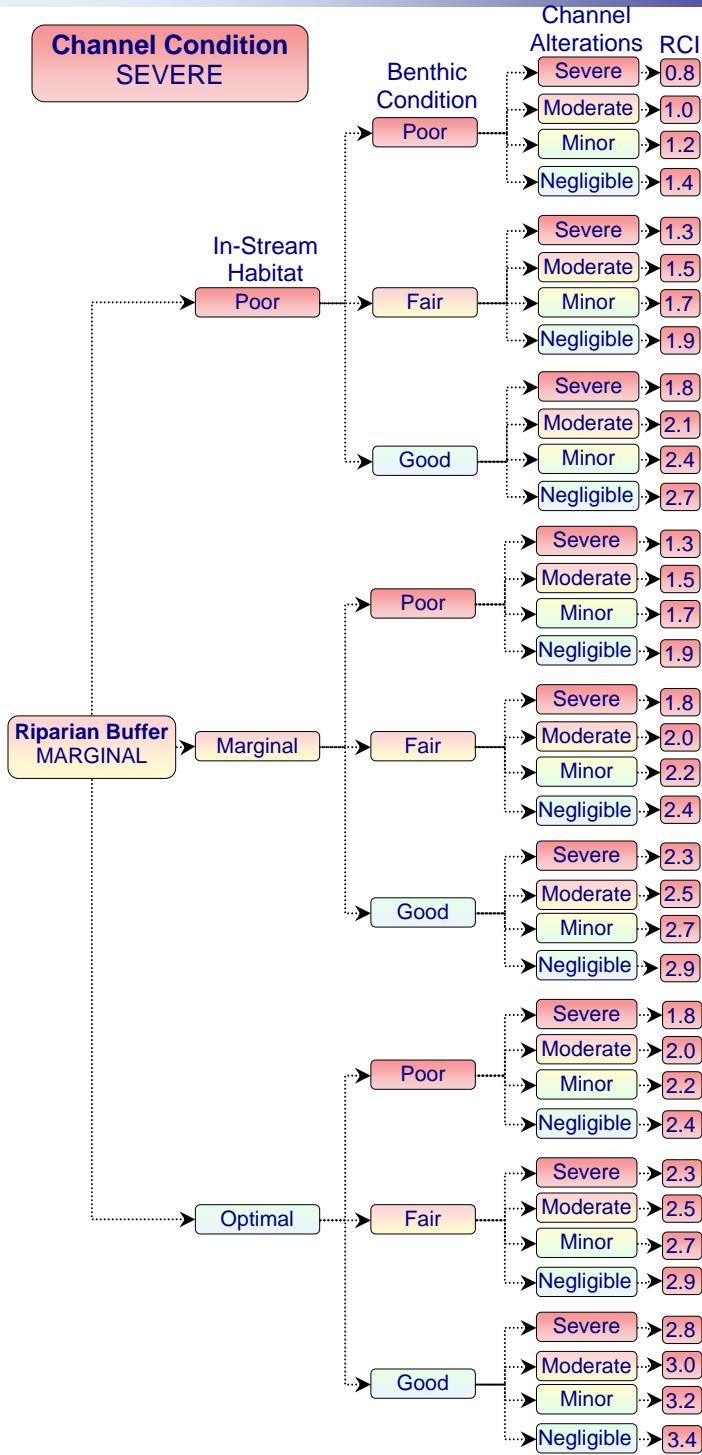
Reach Condition Index (RCI) values range from 0 to 6.0. These values were derived by evaluating five parameters - Channel Condition, Riparian Buffer, In-Stream Habitat, Benthos, and Channel Alteration. A relative weighting of each parameter was then applied, such that the total sum of all 5 parameters would equal 5.5 (note a weighting of 0.5 is given for the worst natural channels, equal to a man-made riprap channel, to arrive at the maximum score of 6.0). The next step was to determine the number of points to apply to each level within each parameter. For example, Channel Condition has a total of 5 levels (as presented in section 1.0). Therefore, each step represents 0.5 points, resulting in the total weighting score for Channel Condition of 2.0. The following table shows each parameter's RCI weight, the number of levels per parameter, and the points associated per step:

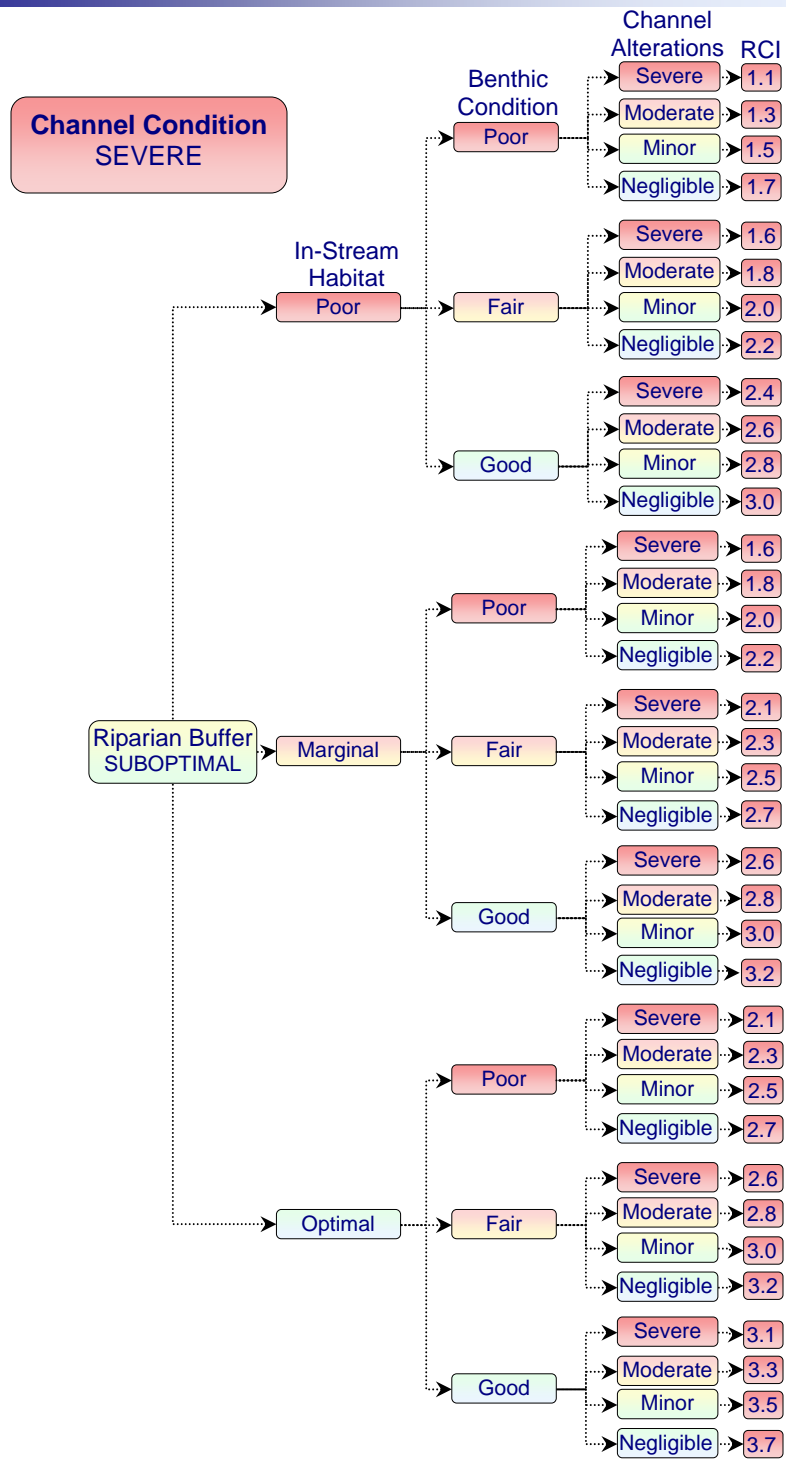
Parameter	RCI Weight	# of levels	Points per step
Channel Condition	2.0	5	0.5
Riparian Condition	0.9	4	0.3
In-Stream Habitat	1.0	3	0.5
Benthos	1.0	3	0.5
Channel Alterations	0.6	4	0.2
TOTAL	5.5	—	—

To summarize, a final RCI for a stream with a certain combination of parameters is the summation of the points gained for each parameter. For example a natural channel (score = 0.5) with a marginal channel condition (score = 1.0), suboptimal riparian buffer (score = 0.6), marginal in-stream habitat (score = 0.5), fair benthos (score = 0.5), and minor channel alterations (score = 0.4) would have a RCI of 3.5.

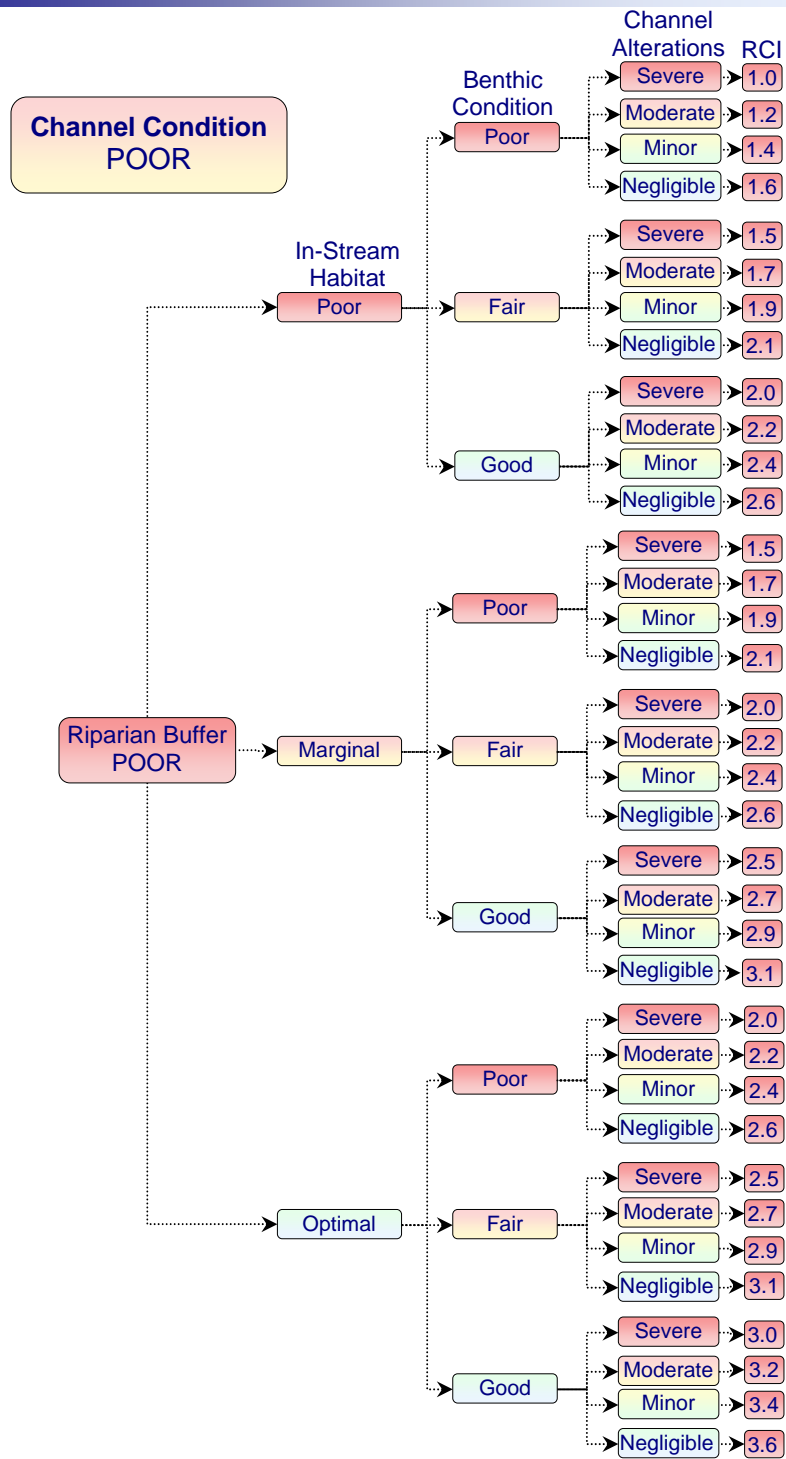
The following flowcharts make the RCI score simple to determine:

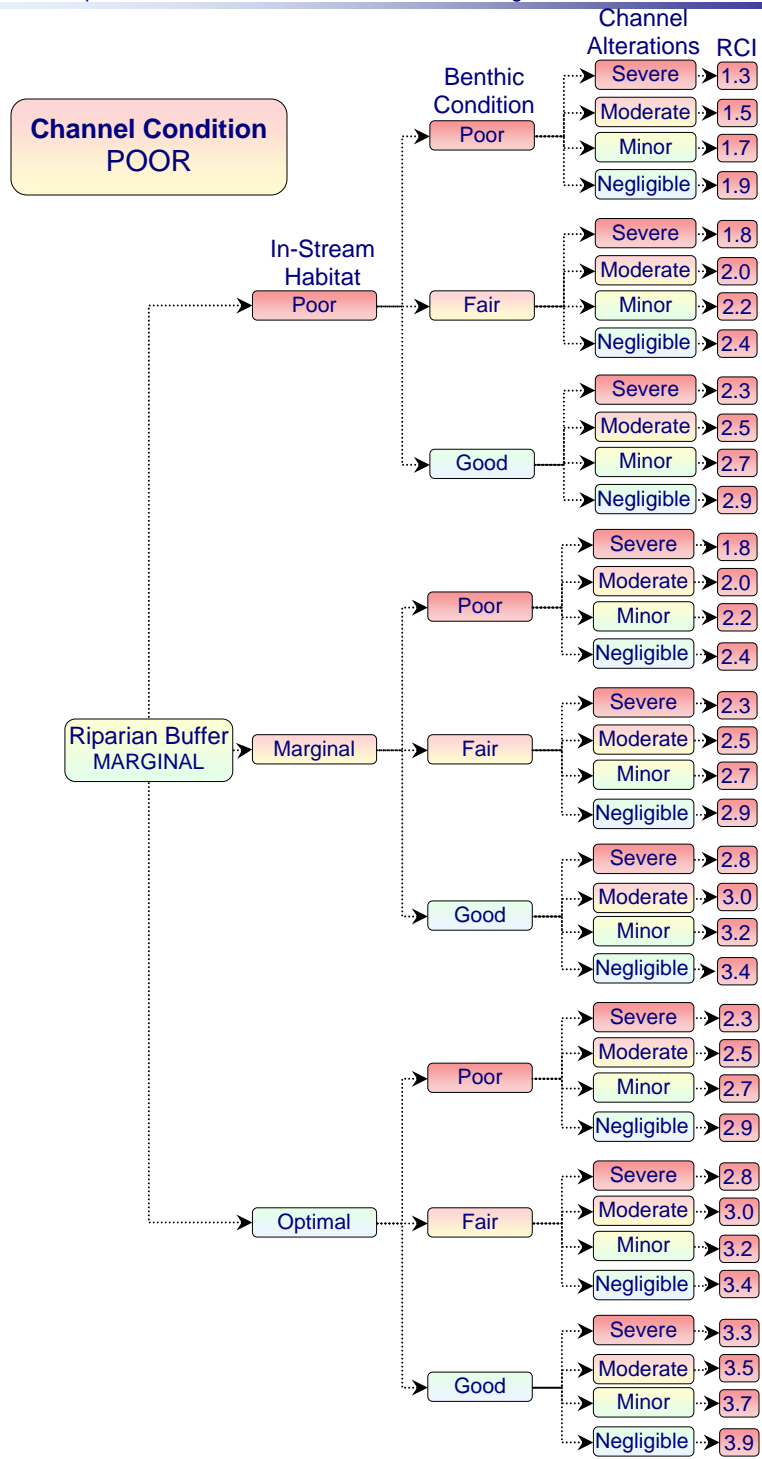




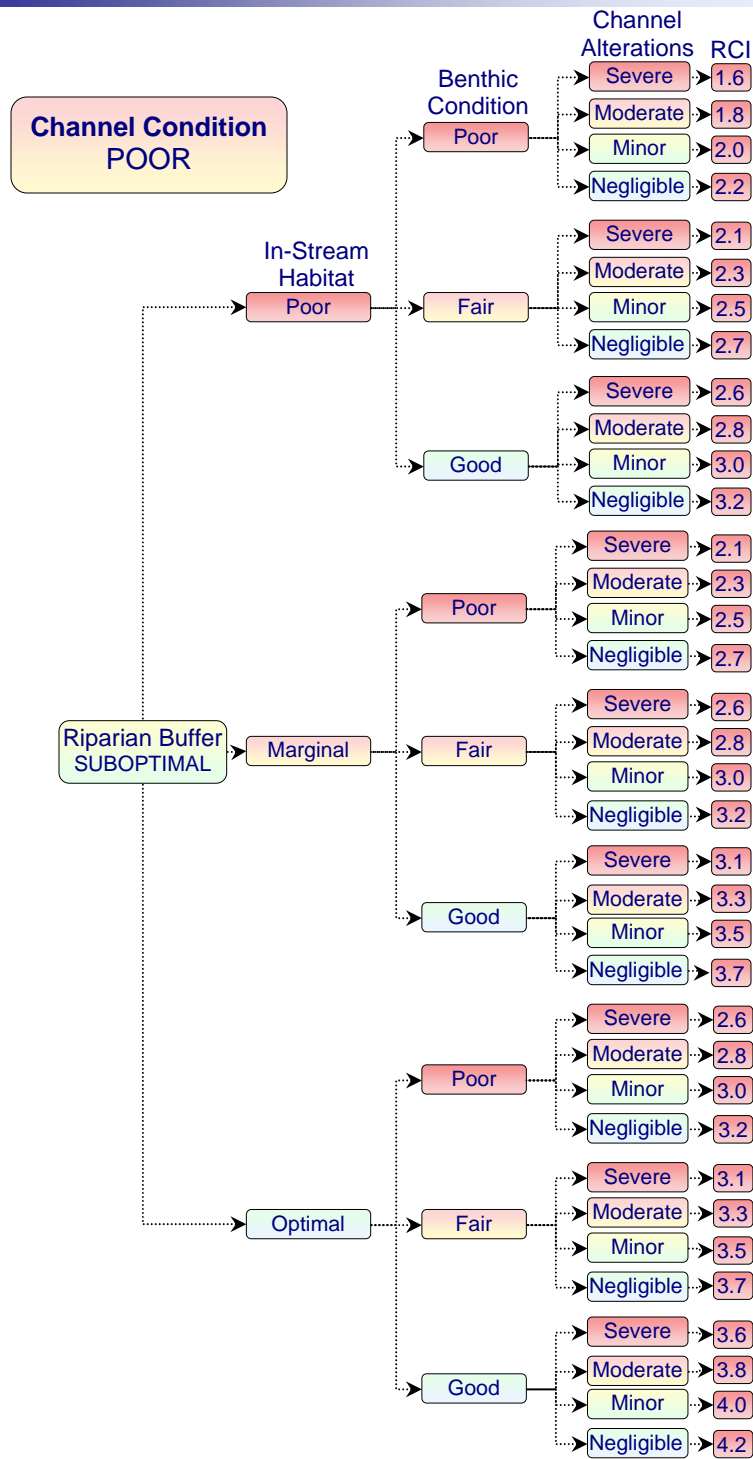


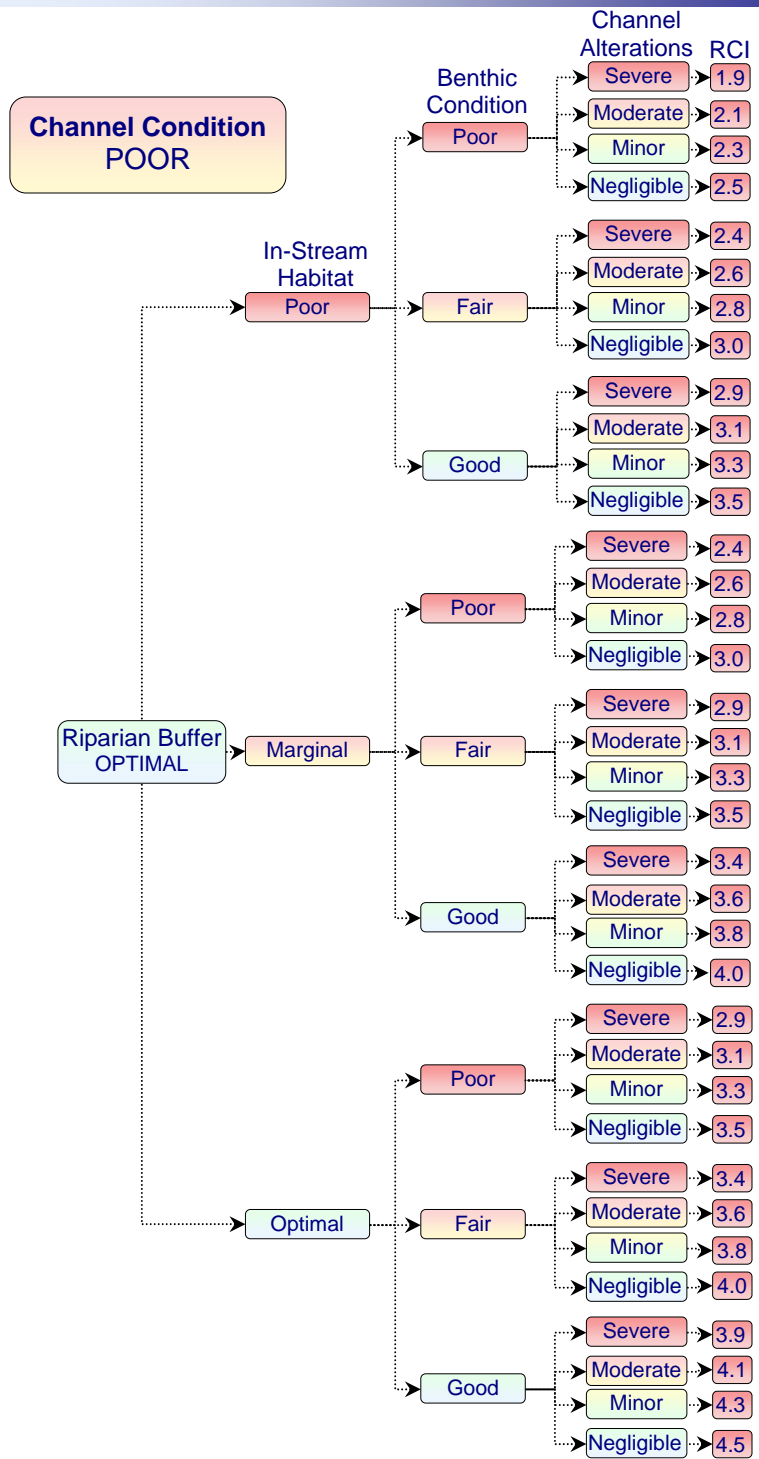


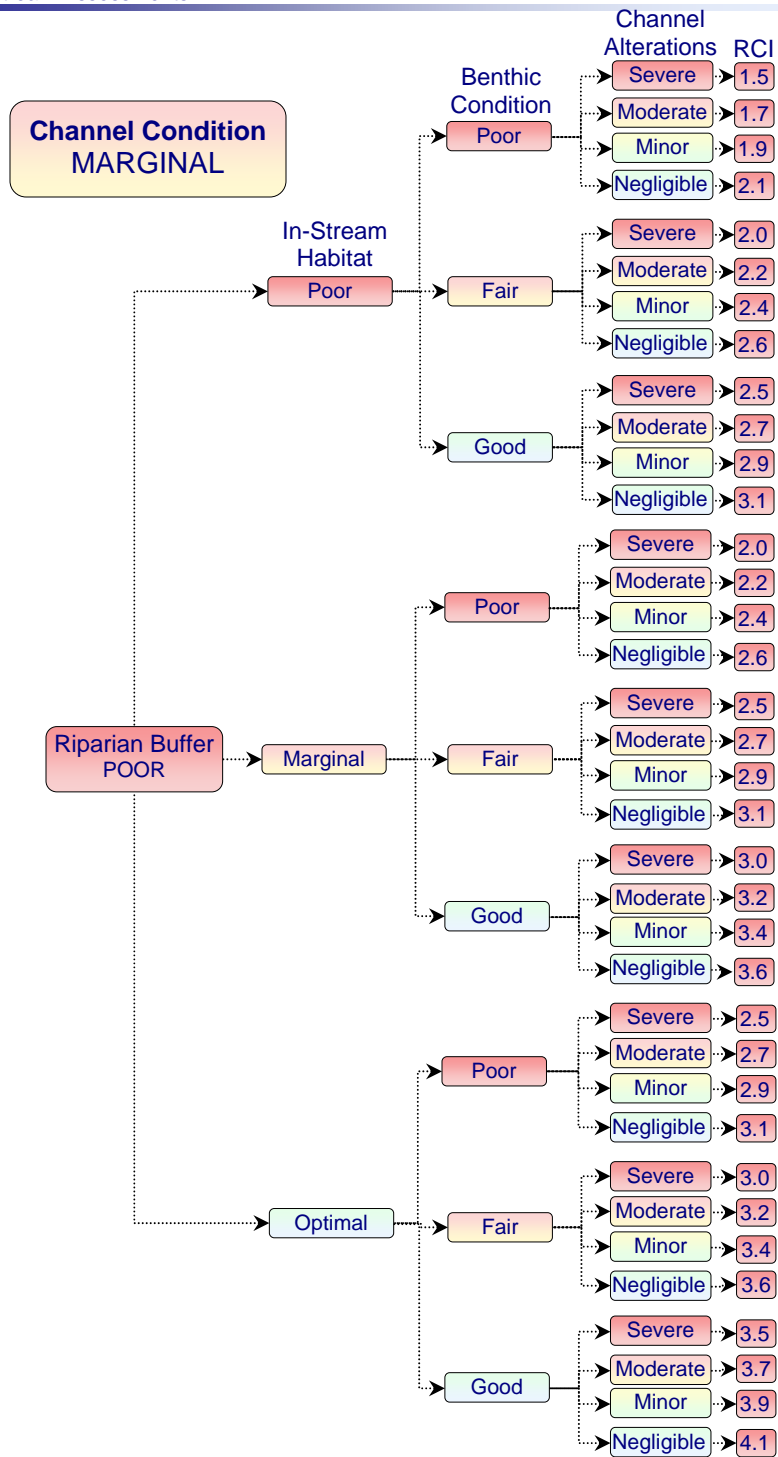


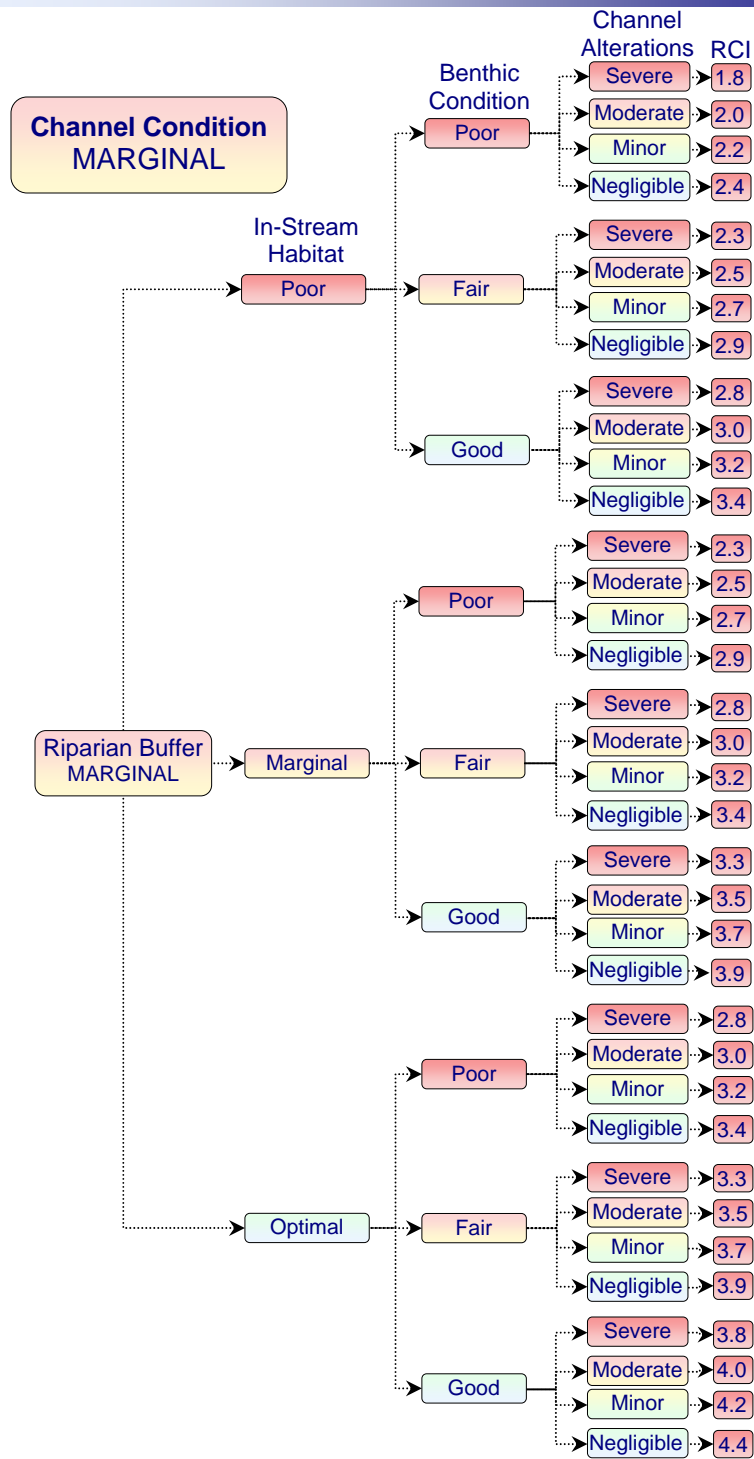


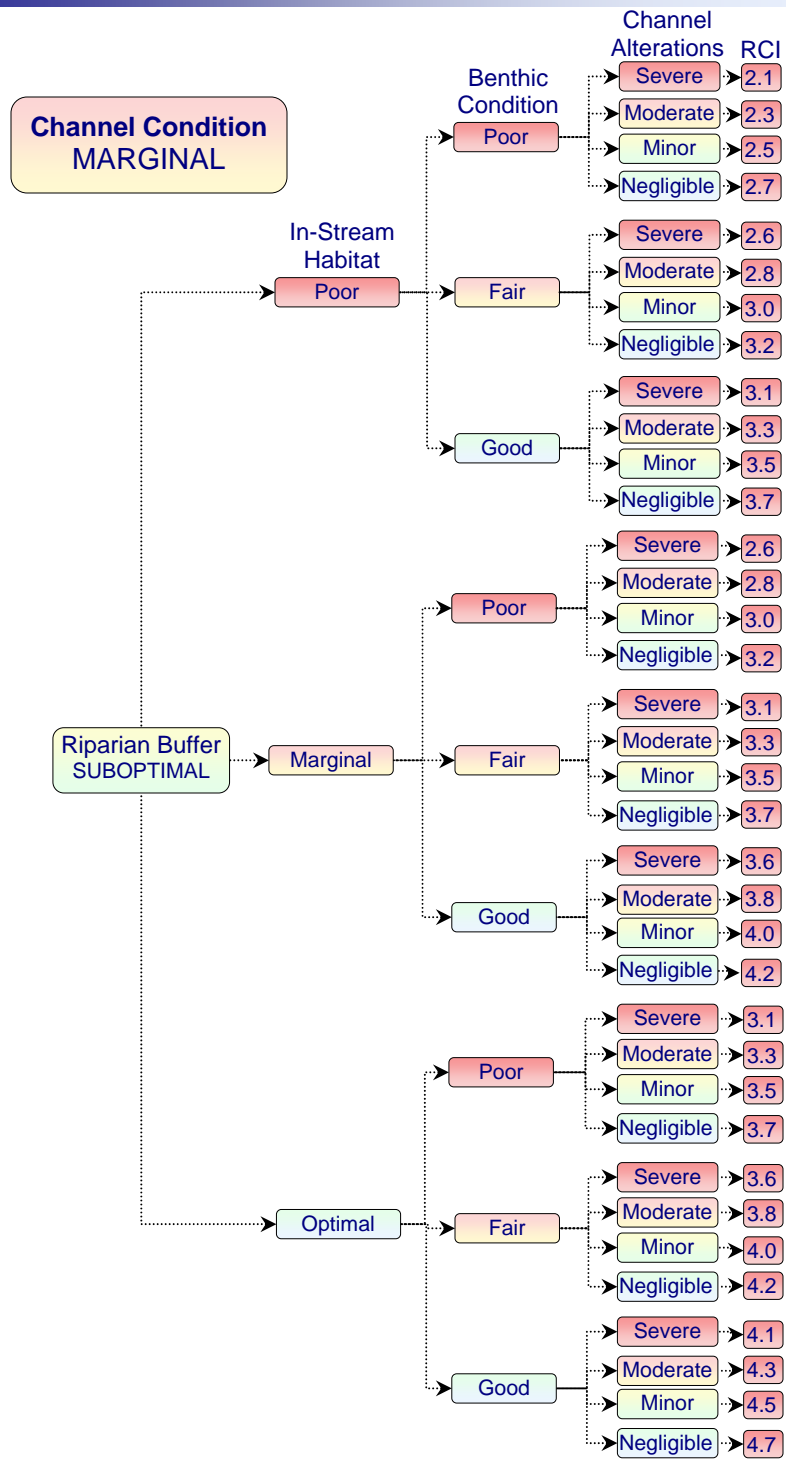


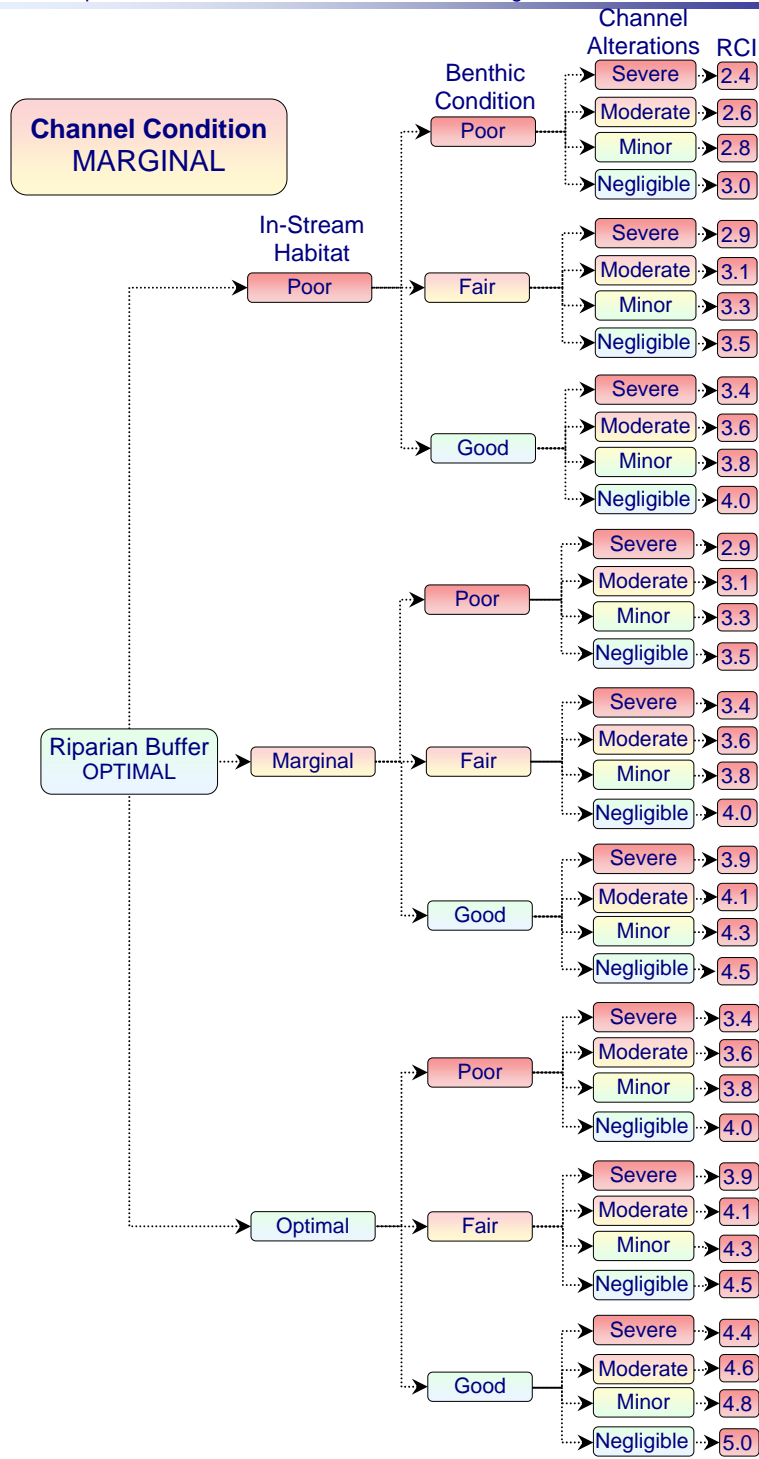


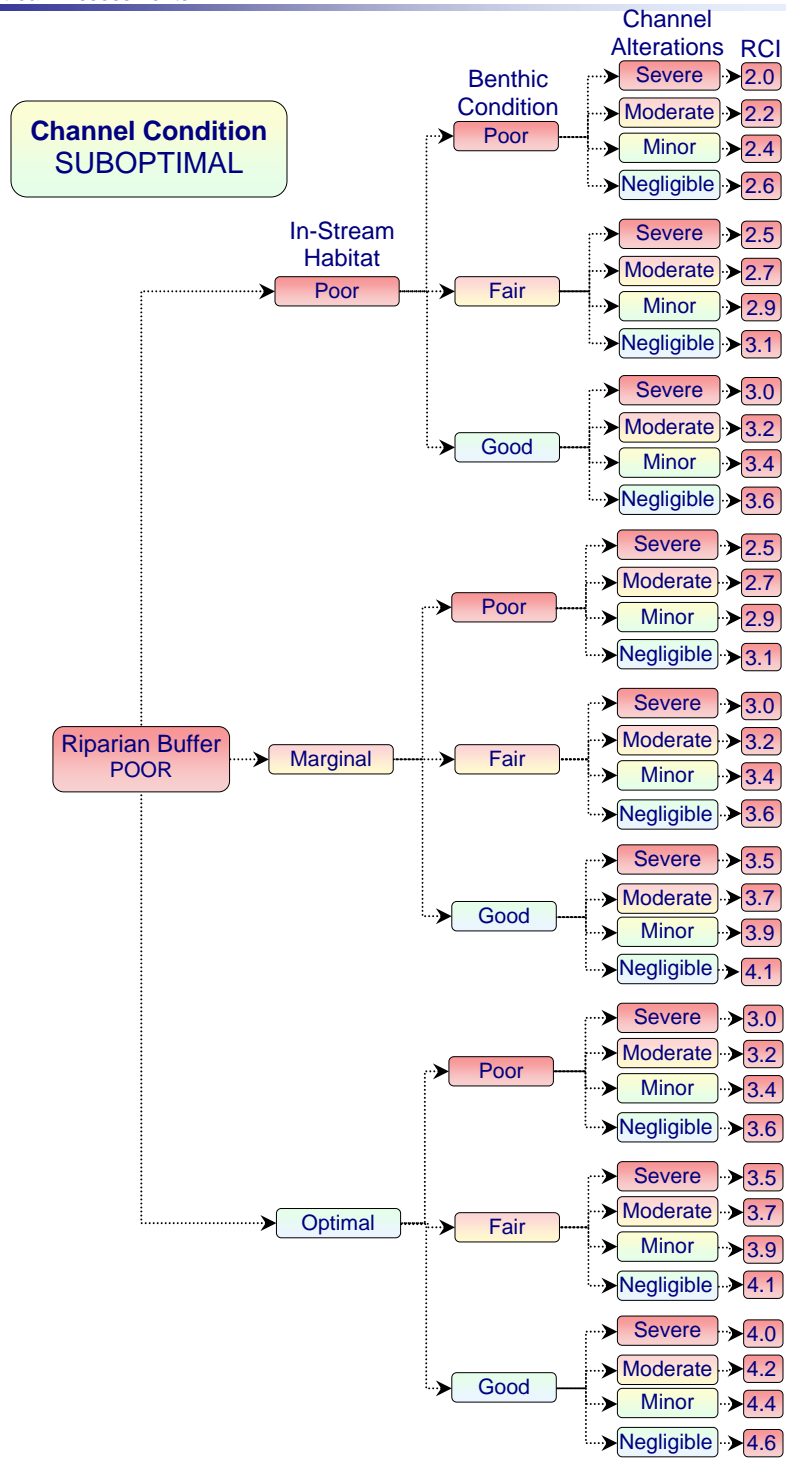


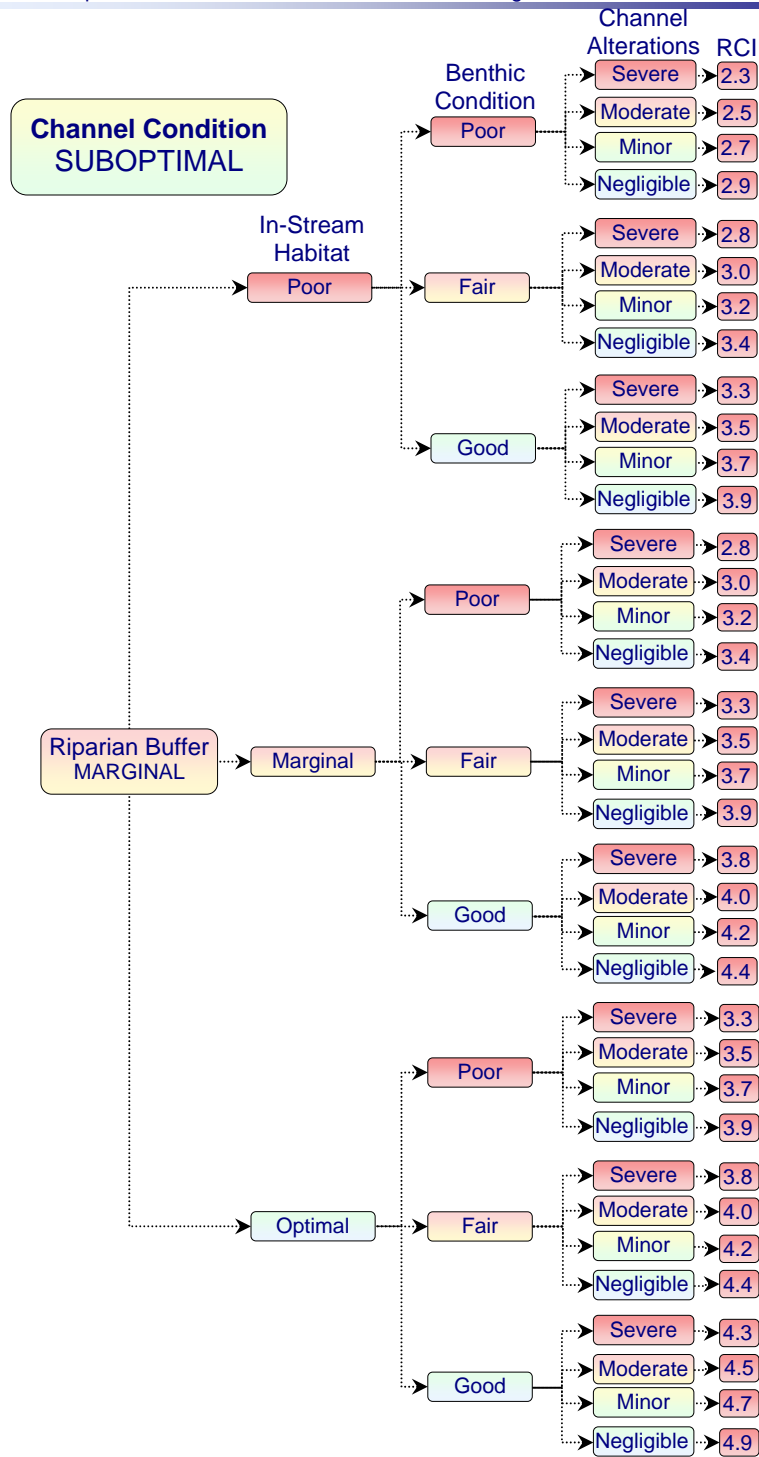




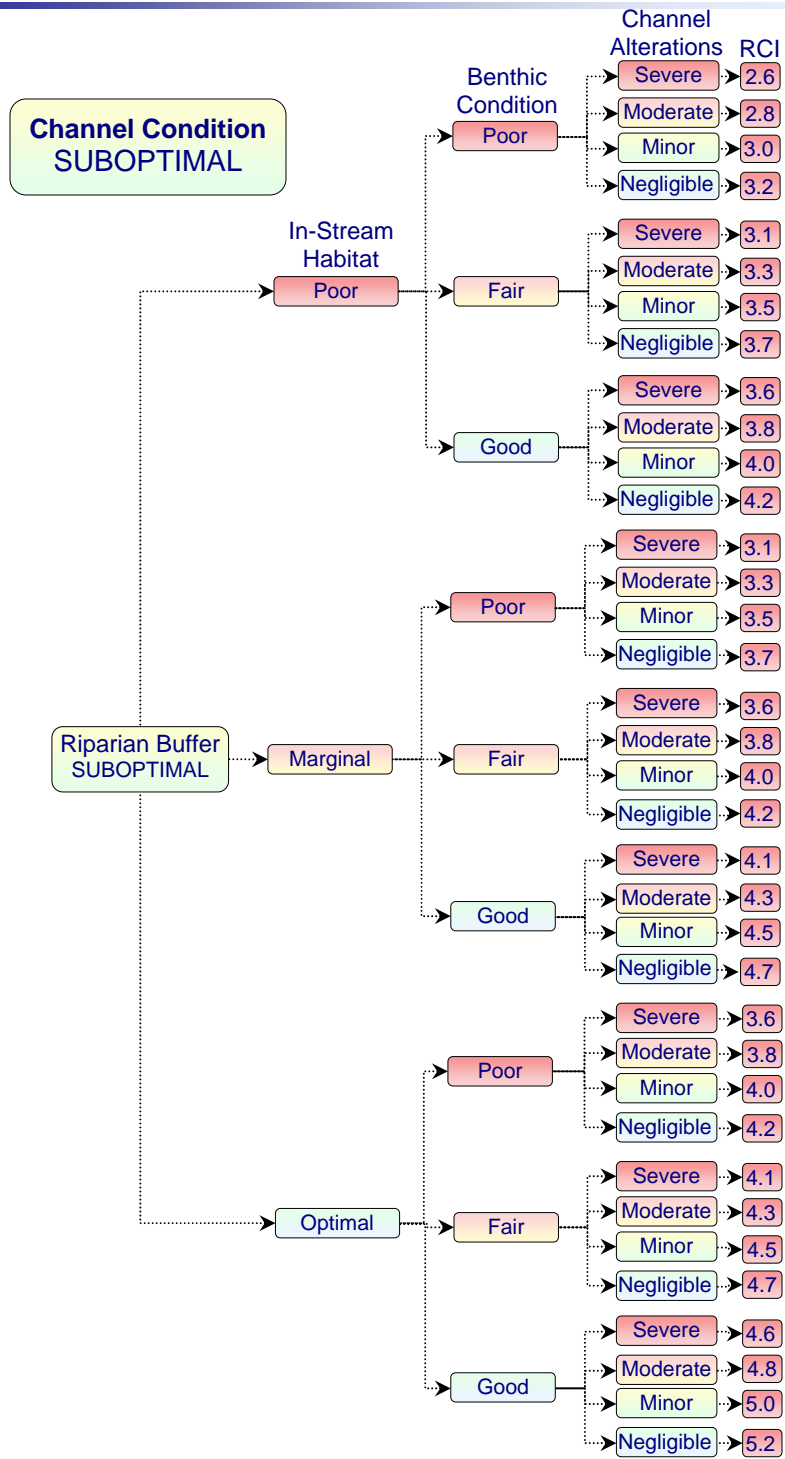


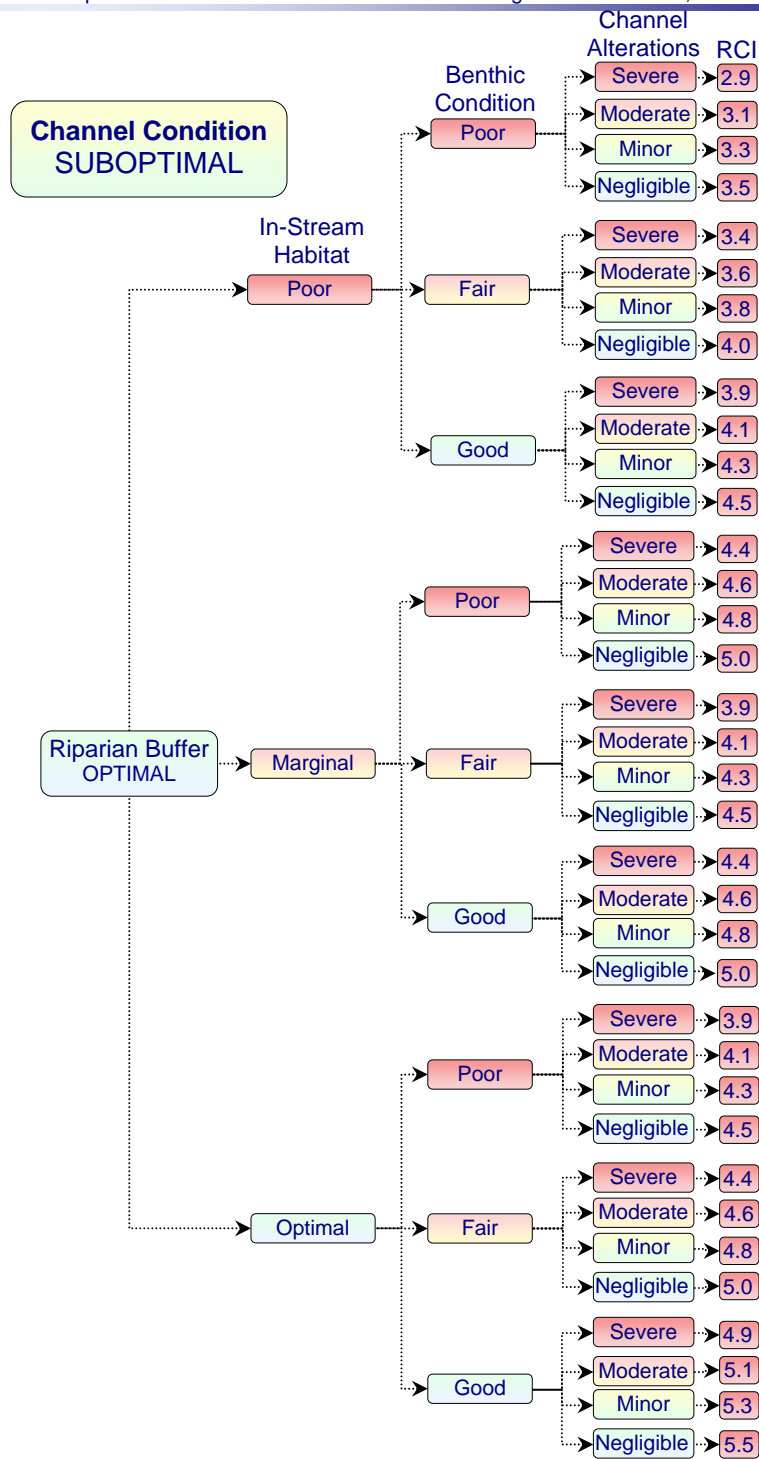


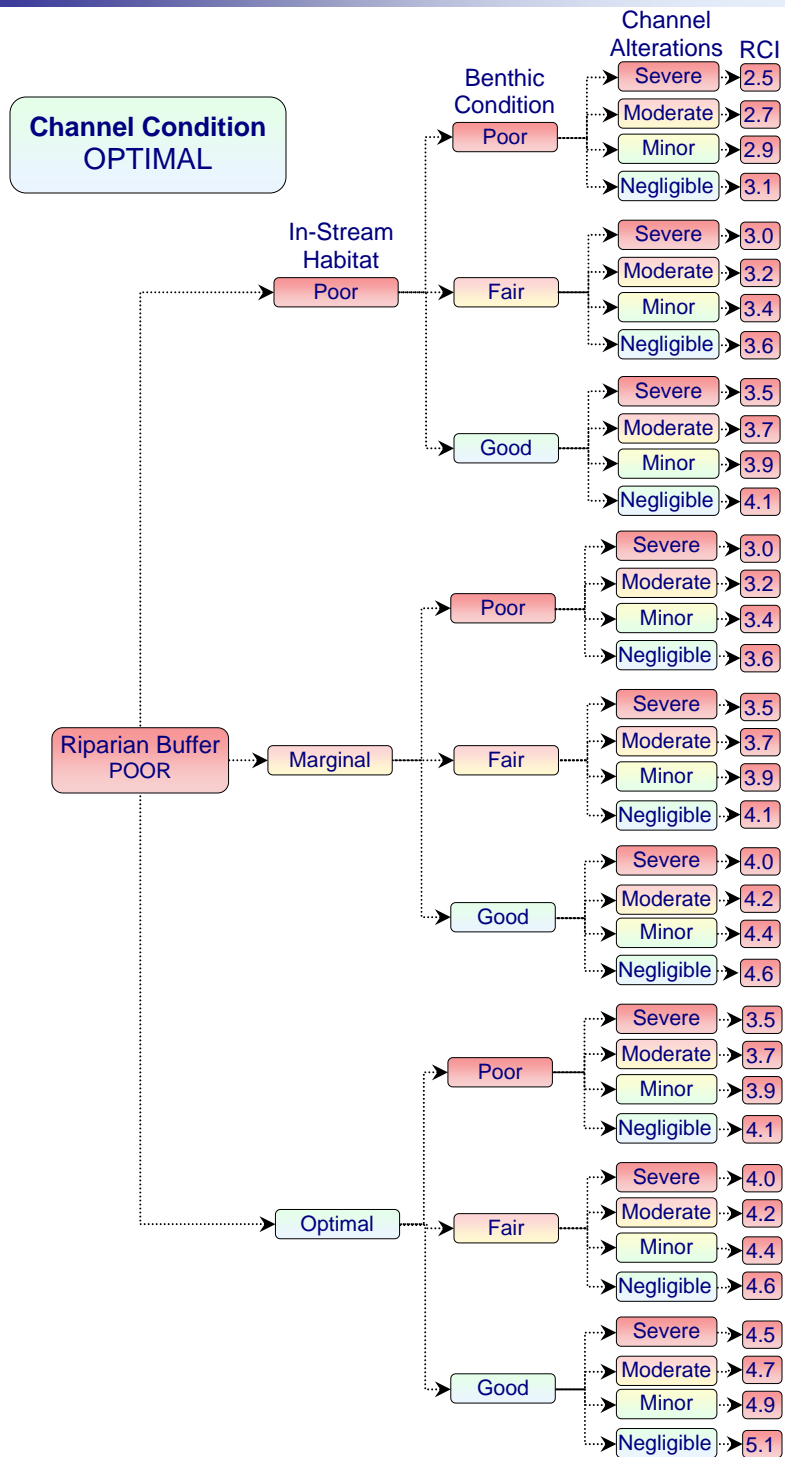


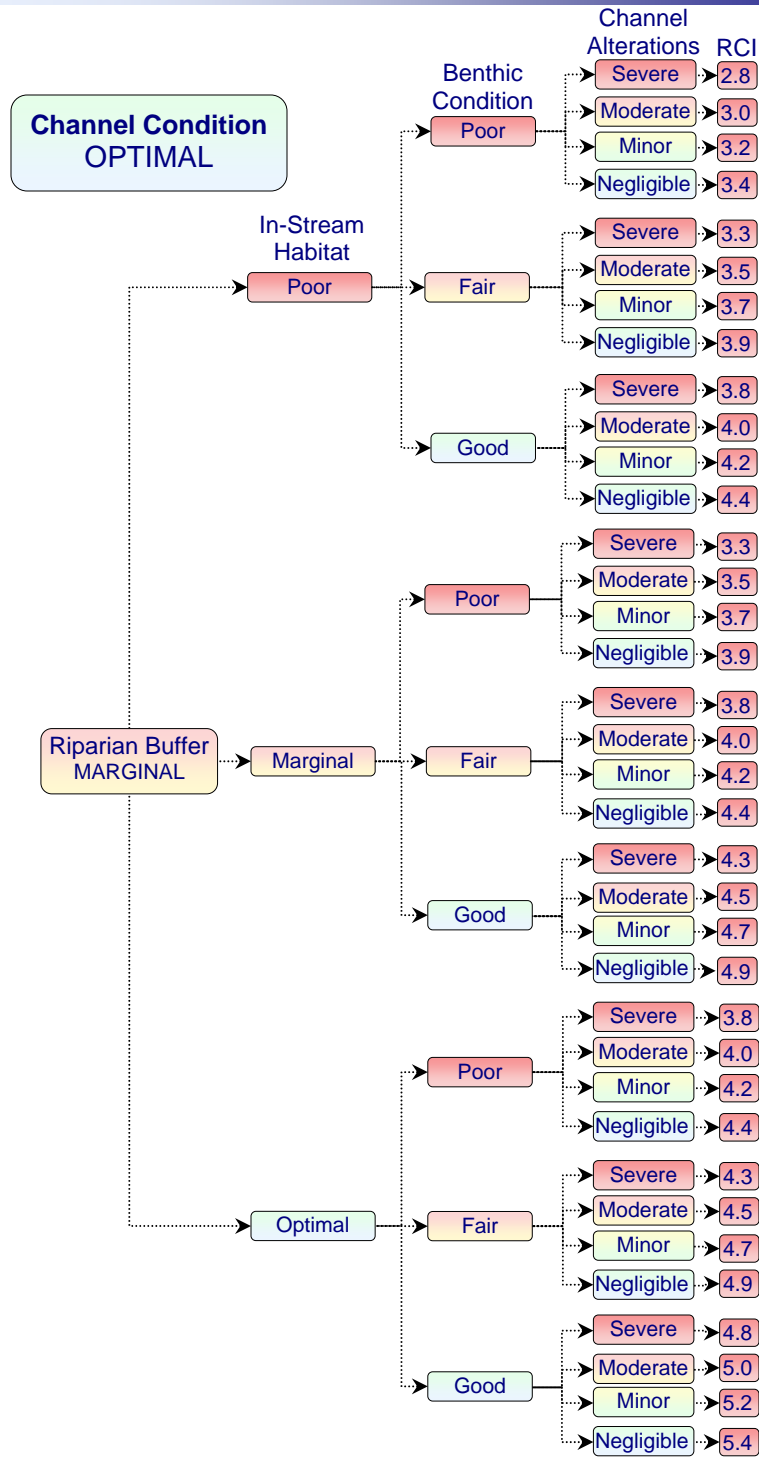


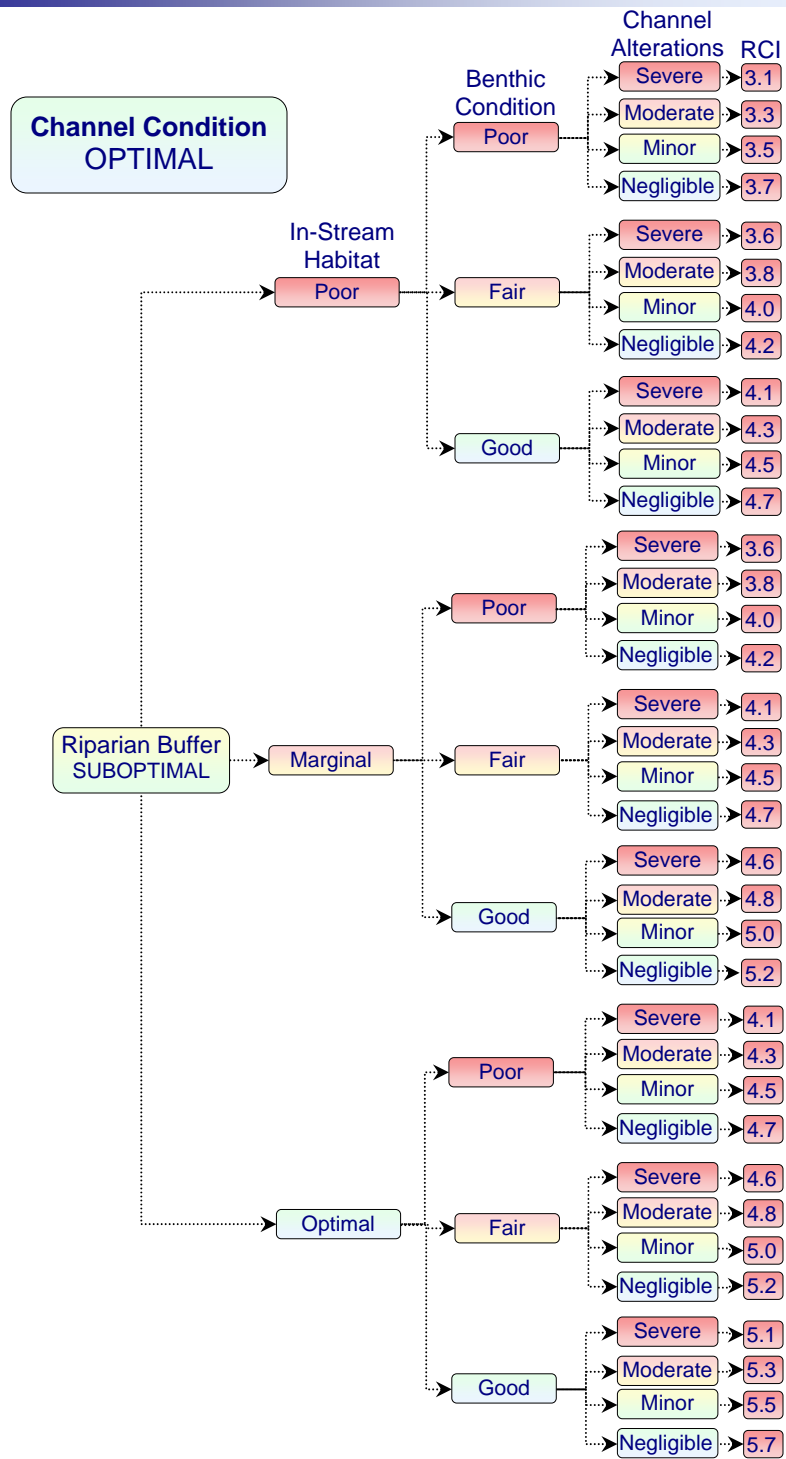


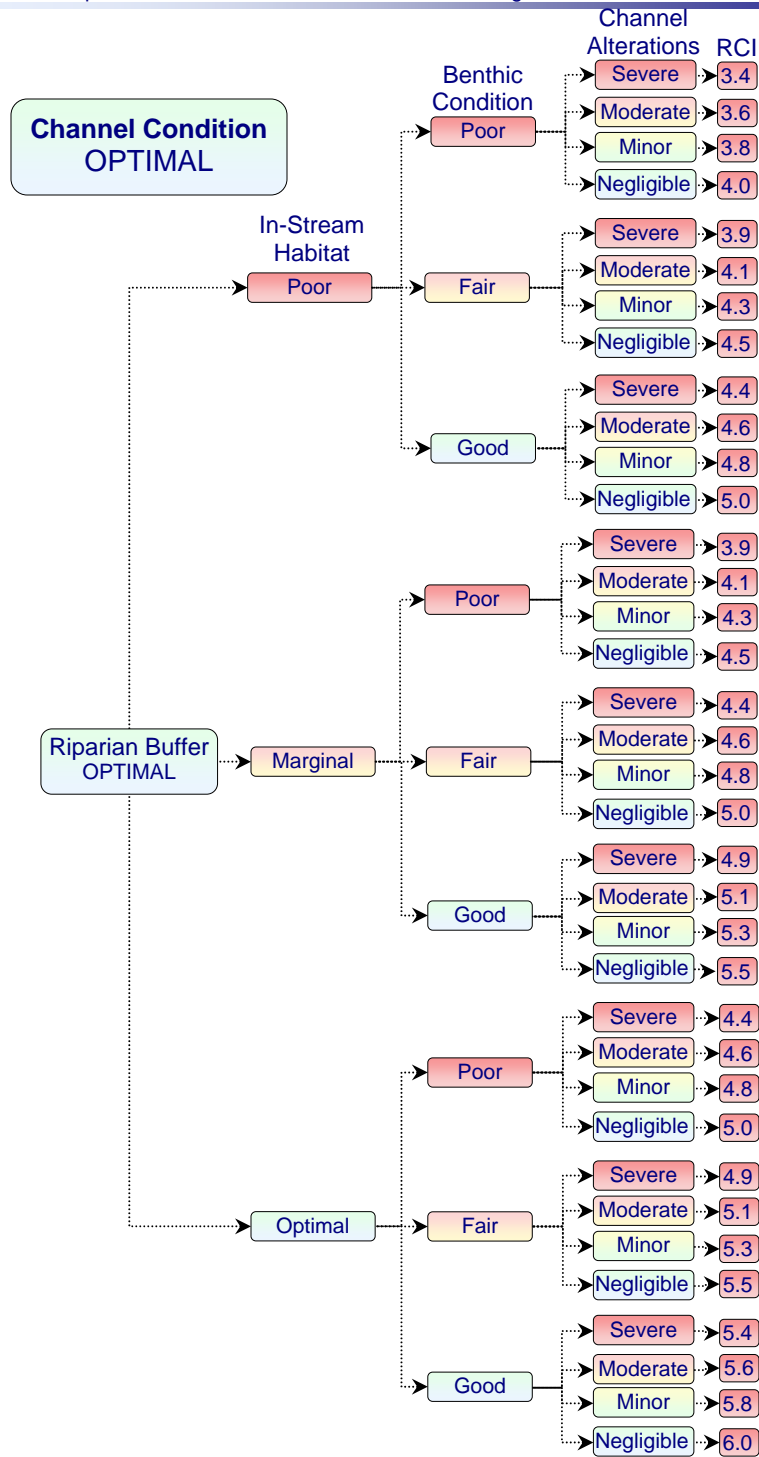












**NOTES:**