

1.4 REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI) - EXAMPLES

1.4.1 Man-Made Channels	70
1.4.2 Natural Channels	72

1.4.1 REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): MAN-MADE CHANNELS



RCI = 0.25: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Man-made, concrete channel.



RCI = 0.25: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Man-made, concrete channel.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): MAN-MADE CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 0.50: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Man-made, riprap channel.



RCI = 0.50: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Man-made, riprap channel.

1.4.2 REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS



RCI = 1.7: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Severe channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; poor in-stream habitat; poor benthos; negligible channel alteration.



RCI = 1.7: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Severe channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; poor in-stream habitat; poor benthos; negligible channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 1.7: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Severe channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; poor in-stream habitat; poor benthos; negligible channel alteration.



RCI = 2.3: Rural stream in Maryland. Poor channel condition; marginal riparian corridor; marginal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; severe channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 2.5: Rural stream in Northern Virginia, straightened more than 10 years ago, and then disked 2 years ago. Optimal channel condition; poor riparian buffer; poor in-stream habitat; poor benthos; severe channel alteration.



RCI = 3.0: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Poor channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; marginal in-stream habitat; poor benthos; negligible channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 3.7: Rural stream in Northern Virginia. Marginal channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; marginal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; negligible channel alteration.



RCI = 3.7: Rural stream in Virginia. Marginal channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor (inactive pasture); marginal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; negligible channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)

RCI = 3.8: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Suboptimal channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; marginal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; moderate channel alteration.



RCI = 3.9: Rural stream in Virginia. Suboptimal channel condition; marginal riparian corridor (active pasture); marginal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; negligible channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 4.5. Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Marginal channel condition; optimal riparian corridor; optimal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; negligible channel alteration.



RCI = 4.7: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Suboptimal channel condition, suboptimal riparian corridor, optimal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; negligible channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 4.7: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Optimal channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; marginal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; negligible channel alteration.



RCI = 5.0: A relocated urban/suburban stream, using natural channel design techniques, at I-895 in central Virginia. Optimal channel condition, suboptimal riparian corridor, optimal in-stream habitat; fair benthos; minor channel alteration (culvert immediately upstream and downstream).

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 5.5: Urban/suburban stream in Maryland. Optimal channel condition; suboptimal riparian corridor; optimal in-stream habitat; good benthos; minor channel alteration.



RCI = 5.8: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Optimal channel condition, riparian corridor, and in-stream habitat; good benthos; minor channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 6.0: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Optimal channel condition, riparian corridor, and in-stream habitat; good benthos; negligible channel alteration.



RCI = 6.0: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Optimal channel condition, riparian corridor, and in-stream habitat; good benthos; negligible channel alteration.

REACH CONDITION INDEX (RCI): NATURAL CHANNELS (cont.)



RCI = 6.0: Urban/suburban stream in Northern Virginia. Optimal channel condition, riparian corridor, and in-stream habitat; good benthos; negligible channel alteration.

NOTES: