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# Session A1- The Vermont culvert screening tools for aquatic organism passage and geomorphic compatibility

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The Vermont Culvert Screening Tools for Aquatic Organism Passage and Geomorphic Compatibility

National Conference on Engineering & Ecohydrology for Fish Passage June 27-29, 2011 University of Massachusetts Amherst

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Full AOP

Reduced AOP

No AOP, Except Adult Salmonids

MLL

MML

No AOP

Geomorph Compat Screen

- Fully Compatible
- Mostly Compatible
- Partially Compatible
- Mostly Incompatible
- Fully Incompatible

AOP Retrofit Potential Screen

(strong-moderate-weak swimmers/leapers)

MM

- H High
- M Medium
- L Low

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Jessica Clark Milone & MacBroom, Inc.

Rich Kirn Vermont Fish and Wildlife

Shayne Jaquith Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

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VT Aquatic Organism Passage Coarse Screen	Full AOP	Reduced AOP	No AOP				
Updated 2/25/2008	for all aquatic organisms	for all aquatic organisms	for all aquatic organisms except adult salmonids		for all aquatic for all aqua organisms except organisms incl adult salmonids adult salmon		aquatic s including almonids
AOP Function Variables / Values	Green (if all are true)	Gray (if any are true)	Orange Red		ed		
Culvert outlet invert type	at grade <b>OR</b> backwatered	cascade	free fall AND free		free fa	all AND	
Outlet drop (ft)	= 0		> 0 , < 1 ft <b>OR</b>		≥ 1 f	t OR	
Downstream pool present			= yes	( = yes AND	= no <b>OR</b>	( = yes AND	
Downstream pool entrance depth / outlet drop			n/m <u>&gt;</u> 1)		n/a	< 1 ) OR	
Water depth in culvert at outlet (ft)			< 0.3 ft		).3 ft		
Number of culverts at crossing	1	> 1					
Structure opening partially obstructed	= none	≠ none					
Sediment throughout structure	yes	no					

### AOP Coarse Screen Results





#### A) RPS Ranges and Variable Thresholds for Screen

	Strong Swimmers/Leapers	Moderate Swimmers/Leapers	Weak Swimmers/Leapers
	%BFW < 30 <b>OR</b>	%BFW < 50 <b>OR</b>	%BFW < 75 <b>OR</b>
Low	$[(L_{NBW} \ge 200) \text{ OR } (L \ge 200 \text{ AND } D < 1)] \text{ OR}$	$[(L_{NBW} \ge 100) \text{ OR } (L \ge 100 \text{ AND } D < 1)] \text{ OR}$	$[(L_{NBW} \ge 100) \text{ OR } (L \ge 100 \text{ AND } D < 1)] \text{ OR}$
LOW	$Od \ge 2.5 \text{ OR}$	$Od \ge 1.5 \text{ OR}$	$Od \ge 1.0 \text{ OR}$
	$0 \le \text{RPS} < 5$	$0 \le \text{RPS} < 5$	$0 \le \text{RPS} < 5$
Medium	5 <u>&lt;</u> RPS < 9	$5 \leq \text{RPS} < 10$	5 <u>&lt;</u> RPS < 12
	%BFW ≥ 75 <b>AND</b>	%BFW ≥ 75 <b>AND</b>	%BFW ≥ 100 <b>AND</b>
High	$[(L_{NBW} < 100) \text{ OR } (L < 100)]$ AND	$[(L_{NBW} < 100) \text{ OR } (L < 100)]$ AND	$[(L_{NBW} < 100) \text{ OR } (L < 100)]$ AND
nigii	Od < 1.5 <b>AND</b>	Od < 1.0 <b>AND</b>	Od < 0.5 AND
	$RPS \ge 9$	$\text{RPS} \ge 10$	$RPS \ge 12$

#### B) Aquatic Organism Groups Based on Swimming/Leaping Ability

Strong Swimmers/Leapers	Moderate Swimmers/Leapers	Weak Swimmers/Leapers
adult trout	juvenile trout	rainbow smelt
adult salmon	suckers	sculpin
American eel	shad	minnows
	lamprey	bass and sunfish
		pike, pickerel
		darters, perch, walleye
		stickleback
		aquatic salamanders

#### C) RPS Variable Scoring

Percent structure width of channel width No.		Non-backv	Non-backwatered structure length (ft) $^{\dagger}$		Outlet drop height (ft)
Score	Values	Score	Values	Score	Values
0	%BFW < 30	0	$L_{\rm NBW} \ge 300$	0	$Od \ge 2.5$
1	$30 \le $ %BFW $< 50$	1	$200 \le L_{\rm NBW} < 300$	1	$2.0 \leq \text{Od} < 2.5$
2	$50 \le $ %BFW $< 75$	2	$100 \le L_{\rm NBW} < 200$	2	$1.5 \le Od < 2.0$
3	$75 \leq \% BFW < 100$	3	$40 \le L_{\rm NBW} < 100$	3	$1.0 \le Od < 1.5$
4	$100 \le \% BFW < 120$	4	$25 \le L_{\rm NBW} < 40$	4	$0.5 \leq \text{Od} < 1.0$
5	$\%$ BFW $\ge 120$	5	$L_{\rm NBW} < 25$	5	Od < 0.5

#### Notes

 $BFW = (culvert width/channel width)*100; L_{NBW} = non-backwatered structure length (ft); L = culvert length (ft); D = water depth in culvert at outlet (ft); Od = outlet drop height (ft); RPS = sum of scores for %BFW, L, and Od.$ 

<sup>†</sup>Use culvert length (L) if non-backwatered length ( $L_{NBW}$ ) not measured.



Number of Structures 

**Percent Bankfull Width Scores** 

# **Structure Length Scores**



#### Number of Structures

**RPS** Scores





**Outlet Drop Scores** 

		AOP	Coarse Sc	reen Results	
	180		157		
	160		107		125
es	140		_		135
ctur	120		_		
tru	100		_		
ofs	80		_		
ber	60		_		
Гш	40		_	30	
2	20	4	_		
	0				
		Full AOP	Reduced AOP	No AOP, except adult salmonids	No AOP
			AOP category	1	

White River

		Coarse Screen		
Retrofit Potential	Total	Gray	Orange	Red
LLL	93	40	4	49
MLL	152	70	15	67
MML	62	35	11	16
MMM	2	2	0	0
HML	1	0	0	1
ННМ	12	10	0	2
ННН	0	0	0	0
Total	322	157	30	135





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Score	% Bankfull Width	Sediment Continuity	Slope	Approach Angle	Erosion and Armoring
5	%BFW ≥ 120	No upstream deposition or downstream bed scour	Structure slope equal to channel slope, and no break in valley slope	Naturally straight	No erosion <b>or</b> armoring
4	$100 \leq $ %BFW $< 120$	<b>Either</b> upstream deposition <b>or</b> downstream bed scour, <b>without</b> upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>or</b> high downstream banks	n/a	n/a	No erosion <b>and</b> intact armoring, <b>or</b> low upstream <b>or</b> downstream erosion <b>without</b> armoring
3	$75 \leq $ %BFW $< 100$	<b>Either</b> upstream deposition <b>or</b> downstream bed scour, <b>with</b> either upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>or</b> high downstream banks	Structure slope equal channel slope, with local break in valley slope	Mild bend	Low upstream <b>or</b> downstream erosion <b>with</b> armoring
2	$50 \leq \% BFW < 75$	<b>Both</b> upstream deposition <b>and</b> downstream bed scour, <b>without</b> upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>or</b> high downstream banks	Structure slope higher or lower than channel slope, and no break in valley slope	Channelized straight	Low upstream <b>and</b> downstream erosion
1	$30 \leq $ %BFW $< 50$	<b>Both</b> upstream deposition <b>and</b> downstream bed scour, <b>with</b> upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>or</b> high downstream banks	n/a	n/a	Severe upstream <b>or</b> downstream erosion
0	%BFW < 30	<b>Both</b> upstream deposition <b>and</b> downstream bed scour, <b>with</b> upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>and</b> high downstream banks	Structure slope higher or lower than channel slope, with local break in valley slope	Sharp bend	Severe upstream <b>and</b> downstream erosion, <b>or</b> failing armoring upstream <b>or</b> downstream





# $\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \% & Bankfull Width & Score \\ \hline \% & BFW > 120 & 5 \\ \hline 100 < \% & BFW < 120 & 4 \\ \hline 75 < \% & BFW < 100 & 3 \\ \hline 50 < \% & BFW < 75 & 2 \\ \hline 30 < \% & BFW < 50 & 1 \\ \hline \% & BFW < 30 & 0 \\ \hline \end{tabular}$





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Score	Sediment Continuity Score Description	Sediment Continuity Score Coding
5	neither occur	No upstream deposition or downstream bed scour
4	one occurs, but it is small	<b>Either</b> upstream deposition <b>or</b> downstream bed scour, <b>without</b> upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>or</b> high downstream banks
3	only one occurs, but it is large	<b>Either</b> upstream deposition <b>or</b> downstream bed scour, <b>with</b> either upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>or</b> high downstream banks
2	both are small	Both upstream deposition and downstream bed scour, without upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height or high downstream banks
1	both occur, but one is large and other is small	Both upstream deposition and downstream bed scour, with upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height or high downstream banks
0	both are large	<b>Both</b> upstream deposition <b>and</b> downstream bed scour, <b>with</b> upstream deposits taller than 0.5 bankfull height <b>and</b> high downstream banks



# Sediment Continuity Variable Scores







Slope	Score
Structure slope equal to channel slope, and	5
no break in valley slope	
n/a	4
Structure slope equal to channel slope, with	3
local break in valley slope	
Structure slope higher or lower than channel	2
slope, and no break in valley slope	
n/a	1
Structure slope higher or lower than channel	0
slope, with local break in valley slope	







Slope	Score
Naturally straight	5
n/a	4
Mild bend	3
Channelized straight	2
n/a	1
Sharp bend	0



Approach Angle Variable Scores





Score	Erosion and Armoring Score Description	Erosion and Armoring Score Coding
5	no erosion AND no armoring	No erosion <b>or</b> armoring
4	no erosion and intact armoring OR low erosion and no armoring	No erosion <b>and</b> intact armoring, <b>or</b> low upstream <b>or</b> downstream erosion <b>without</b> armoring
3	low erosion up OR down, armored	Low upstream <b>or</b> downstream erosion <b>with</b> armoring
2	low erosion up AND down	Low upstream and downstream erosion
1	high erosion up OR down, if armored then intact	Severe upstream or downstream erosion
0	high erosion both up and down OR any failing armoring	Severe upstream <b>and</b> downstream erosion, <b>or</b> failing armoring upstream <b>or</b> downstream











Category Name	Screen Score	Threshold Conditions	Description of structure-channel geomorphic compatibility
Fully compatible	20 <gc<u>&lt;25</gc<u>	n/a	Structure fully compatible with natural channel form and process. There is a low risk of failure. No replacement anticipated over the lifetime of the structure. A similar structure is recommended when replacement is needed.
Mostly compatible	15 <gc<u>&lt;20</gc<u>	n/a	Structure mostly compatible with current channel form and process. There is a low risk of failure. No replacement anticipated over the lifetime of the structure. Minor design adjustments recommended when replacement is needed to make fully compatible.
Partially compatible	10 <gc<u>&lt;15</gc<u>	n/a	Structure compatible with either current form or process, but not both. Compatibility likely short term. There is a moderate risk of structure failure and replacement may be needed. Re-design suggested to improve geomorphic compatibility.
Mostly incompatible	5 <gc<u>&lt;10</gc<u>	% Bankfull Width + Approach Angle scores $\leq 2$	Structure mostly incompatible with current form and process, with a moderate to high risk of structure failure. Re-design and replacement planning should be initiated to improve geomorphic compatibility.
Fully incompatible	0 <u>≤</u> GC <u>≤</u> 5	% Bankfull Width + Approach Angle scores ≤ 2 AND Sediment Continuity + Erosion and Armoring scores ≤ 2	Structure fully incompatible with channel and high risk of failure. Re-design and replacement should be performed as soon as possible to improve geomorphic compatibility.





#### Culvert Geomorphic Compatibility Screen Scores

Pilot Study Results							
Category Name	White River Watershed		Ottauquechee River Watershed				
	#	%	#	%			
Fully compatible	5	1	0	0			
Mostly compatible	93	21	36	18			
Partially compatible	165	38	69	35			
Mostly incompatible	145	33	78	39			
Fully incompatible	26	6	17	9			



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# Thank you

# http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/rivers/htm/rv\_geoassess.htm



















Culvert Ass	essment Field Form	<u>n</u> -	Geomorph	nic & Habita	at P	arameters F	ield Map #	
SGA Structure ID						Struct_Num		
Observer(s) / Organization(s)						Date		
Town						Phase 1 Project		
Location						Longitude (E/W)		
Reach VTID						Latitude (N/S)		
Road Name						Road Type	paved g rail	ravel trail road
Stream Name						High Flow Stage	yes	no
Channel Width curve measured	(ft.)	concrete plastic corrugated		Structure skewed to roadway	yes	no		
Culvert Length	(ft.)	Materi	plastic smoot tank	h 		Culvert Height		(ft.)
Culvert Width	(ft.)	ulvert l	steel corrugated stone aluminum corrugated	# of culverts at crossing				
		other mixed		Overflow pipe(s)	yes	no		
Geomorphic and	Fish Passage Data							
General    Floodplain filled by roadway approaches:  entirely  partially  not significant    Structure located at a significant break in valley slope:  yes  no  unsure    Culvert slope as compared with the channel slope is:  higher  lower  same								
Upstream    Is structure opening partially obstructed by (circle all that apply): wood debris sediment deformation none    Steep riffle present immediately upstream of structure:  yes  no    If channel avulses, stream will:  cross road  follow road  unsure    Estimated distance avulsion would follow road: (feet)    Angle of stream flow approaching structure:  sharp bend  mild bend  naturally straight  channelized straight								
Downstream								
Water depth in culvert (at outlet): (0.0 feet) Culvert outlet invert: partially backwatered or at grade cascade free fall Backwater Length (measured from outlet): (0.0 feet) Outlet drop (invert to water surface): (0.0 feet) Pool present immediately downstream of structure: yes no Pool depth at point of streamflow entry: (0.0 feet) Maximum pool depth: (0.0 feet)								
Downstream bank heights are substantially higher than upstream bank heights: yes no								

VT Agency of Natural Resources



Geomorphic and Fish Passage Data	UPSTREAM	DOWNSTREAM	IN STRUCTURE			
Dominant bed material at structure	1 2 3 4 5 UK bedrock present: yes	1    2    3    4    5    UK      no    bedrock present: yes    no	0 1 2 3 4 5 UK material throughout: yes no			
Sediment deposit types	none delta sio point mid-channe	de none delta side el point mid-channel	none delta side point mid-channel			
Elevation of sediment deposits is greater than or equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ bankfull elevation:	yes no	yes no	yes no			
Bank erosion	high low none	high low none	Bed Material Codes 0-none 1-bedrock 2-boulder 3-cobble 4-gravel 5-sand UK-unknown			
Hard bank armoring	intact failing none unknown	intact failing none unknown				
Streambed scour causing undermining around/under structure (circle all that apply)	none culvert footer wing walls	none culvert footer wing walls				
Beaver dam near structure Distance from structure to dam	yes no distance:f	yes no t. distance: ft.				
Wildlife Data (left/right bank determined facing downstream)	LEFT RIGHT	LEFT RIGHT	Vegetation Type Codes			
Dominant vegetation type			C-coniferous forest D-deciduous forest M-mixed forest			
Does a band of shrub/forest vegetation that is at least 50' wide start within 25' of structure and extend 500'or more up/downstream?	yes no yes n	o yes no yes no	S-shrub/sapling H-herbaceous/grass B-bare R-road embankment			
Road-killed wildlife within ¼ mile of structure? (circle none or list species)	species: none					
Wildlife sign and species observed	Outside Stru	icture I	nside Structure			
near (up/downstream) and inside structure	species (none)	sign species (no	one) sign			
(circle none or list species and sign types)						
Spatial data collected w/GPS: yes no	Comments:					
Please fill out photo log below						
Roll and Frame # Photo View	Description of Features in Photo					

VT Agency of Natural Resources

