

Stage 0 Stream Restoration Potential Outcomes:

Stream Restoration Information Aides

In stream restoration, a common first step is determining the current state, or 'Stage,' of the stream system, and where it falls within a stream evolution model. This information, paired with on-site evaluation of conditions, can influence restoration design decisions, as well as expectations for what could happen on the site in the future following restoration.

This Information Aide portrays a site that is representative of a **Stage 0 Stream**. The top graphic shows a basic representation of what the site may look like 1 year after restoration. The network of graphics below it demonstrate several possible changes that could occur on the site over subsequent years, and as flow conditions change.

Although all streams are dynamic systems, **Stage 0 Streams** are very dynamic systems by nature. This Information Aide is a simplified graphic made to emphasize this dynamic nature.



The graphics are organized vertically by **time period**, and horizontally by **seasonal flow type**. For example, the top left graphic shows what the site may look like 3-5 years after restoration if conditions have been relatively dry.

As time progresses (moving from top to bottom in the graphics), the site will experience different flow conditions. In this way, a site may begin at the top graphic (1 year post restoration), then move to the top left scenario, then to the second row-far right scenario if it has 3-5 dry years, followed by a heavy flood 5-10 years after restoration. If the following 10 years have relatively normal flows, the site may evolve to look more like the third row-second column scenario.

As shown below, predicting what a stream will do or look like in the future is impossible, even on a site where restoration has taken place. This Information Aide shows several of the possible changes that could occur on the site as the stream system evolves following restoration.

