

Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Willamette Subbasins

Technical Support Document Appendix C: Potential Near-Stream Land Cover

August 2024

Preface

This document is one component of work by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to support development of water quality improvement plans in the Willamette Basin. Specifically, this document supports the development of surrogate measures used in temperature Total Maximum Daily Loads in the Willamette Basin, as required under 40 CFR 130 Federal Clean Water Act.

Pamela Wright, a riparian ecologist, was the primary author of this document.

Revision History

This document was revised by Erin Costello in 2023 to support the TMDL revision, Temperature TMDLs for Willamette Subbasins. Major edits include replacing the term "geomorphic unit" with "mapping unit". The term "mapping unit" better encompasses the combination of geologic, ecoregion and vegetation GIS information used to determine potential vegetation for specific locations in the Willamette Basin. In addition, the map in **[Figure](#page-5-0) 1-1** was updated to reflect this terminology change and to include the Lower Willamette Subbasin ecoregion data.

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1. Introduction

Potential near-stream land cover is an aspect of stream temperature that is critical to determining temperature Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for surface waters in the Willamette Basin. Potential nearstream land cover is commonly referred to as system potential vegetation. In this document the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) explains the methodology and analysis results for predicting potential near-stream land cover in the basin. The work presented in this document reflects the analysis conducted by DEQ and knowledge from local experts from outside the agency that reviewed and gave comments regarding the analysis and assumptions made from the analysis. A list of experts who participated in this process is available in Appendix 1. DEQ also provides documentation of possible model scenarios to predict vegetation distribution given a range of potential near-stream land cover for various riparian environments in the Willamette Basin. The potential near-stream land cover approach described in this document applies to ten of the twelve subbasins in the Basin: Clackamas, Middle Willamette, Upper Willamette, North Santiam, South Santiam, McKenzie, Middle Fork Willamette, Coast Fork Willamette, Yamhill, and Molalla-Pudding. The Tualatin and Lower Willamette subbasin potential near-stream land cover approach is described in the 2001 Tualatin Subbasin TMDL, Appendix A: Temperature Technical Analysis, Tualatin River Subbasin Vegetation Conditions section starting on page A-6, <http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/TMDLs/Tualatin/AppendixA.pdf> .

Temperature in many Willamette Basin streams currently exceeds the temperature criteria in Oregon's temperature standard. Riparian vegetation is known to be one of the primary factors controlling stream temperature (Boyd and Sturdevant, 1997)

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/standards/WQStdsTempStdSciBasis.pdf> . DEQ needs to determine potential near-stream land cover, or system potential vegetation, and use this information to predict stream temperatures in the absence of anthropogenic heat. The potential near-stream land cover is the basis of the load allocation for nonpoint source sectors of heat. This methodology is therefore the basis for preparing system potential vegetation and shade targets for the temperature TMDLs. The shade targets developed take into account a natural disturbance regime that is reflected in the diversity of species composition derived for each mapping unit.

The Willamette Valley is bounded on the east by the Cascade Range, and by the Coast Range on the west. To predict potential near-stream land cover in the upland forested mountainous areas, DEQ is using the plant associations developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS) for the Willamette Basin (Logan et al., 1987).

Currently, there are no plant association data sets available for the Willamette Valley bottom, similar to what the USFS has compiled for the upland forest mountainous area. For the valley, DEQ is using landscape level environmental data (geomorphology, ecoregions, geology, soils, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) 1998 Willamette Vegetation, in-field current conditions) and a historic 1850's vegetation layer developed from notes of General Land Office (GLO) surveys to predict potential near-stream land cover. DEQ's objective is not to model a particular point in history, but to use historic data to understand the relationship between the relatively undisturbed vegetation of the mid-1800s and the corresponding environments that currently exist along the various streams in the Willamette Valley. DEQ is using that understanding, information about plant physiology and silviculture, and environmental data to predict future potential near-stream land cover.

The Willamette Valley bottom potential near-stream land cover is assigned a vegetation component defined by the mapping unit; **[Figure 1-1](#page-5-0)** below illustrates the extent of mapping units in the Willamette Subbasins project area.

Figure 1-1: Willamette Basin mapping units used to determine potential near-stream land cover for stream temperature modeling.

In addition to describing DEQ's objectives, methodology, and results of the technical analysis, this document includes general "rules" and principles that other entities can use for implementing potential near-stream land cover to improve water quality.

2. Background and Objectives

The process of developing data on potential near-stream land cover is specific to the context in which the data are used in DEQ's TMDL methodology. In this context, potential near-stream land cover is defined as that which can grow and reproduce on a site given plant biology, site elevation, soil characteristics, and local climate. Potential near-stream land cover does not include considerations for resource management, human use, or other human disturbance, however natural disturbance regimes (i.e. fire, disease, wind-throw, etc.) are accounted for in this definition. The DEQ assumes that potential near-stream land cover types (as defined) survive and recover from natural disturbance events.

Oregon water temperature criteria's limit anthropogenic warming to a small amount of no more than 0.3ºC when specific numeric criteria are exceeded. This condition is one in which stream warming related to human activities is minimized. Because near-stream land cover is a controlling factor in stream temperature regimes, the condition and health of land cover is a primary parameter considered in determining the temperature TMDL. Reversing or removing human disturbance from near-stream land cover is a pathway for compliance with Oregon's water temperature standard even when the numeric temperature criteria are not met.

Developing potential near-stream land cover can often be complex because natural systems are highly variable. DEQ has developed simple rules to determine potential near-stream land cover data sets based on physical characteristics and clearly stated assumptions. DEQ acknowledges that determining the potential near-stream land cover type and distribution for some areas is not easily done. This is particularly true for the Willamette Valley bottom, where vegetation has been removed near low gradient streams altering channels by constructing dikes and revetments. Literature on the land cover potential and local knowledge in the universities and federal and state agencies is limited. Consequently, for areas where land cover potential is not documented in the literature or evident in ground level studies and data, DEQ is using a range of land cover types and attributes in the TMDL.

3. Methodology

3.1 The Analysis

Step 1. Mapping units, which are an amalgamation of quaternary geologic units, geology, soils, ODFW 1998 Willamette Vegetation, ecoregions, and historic 1850's vegetation maps, were examined to assess the availability of data and to understand the variability in the Basin, **[Figure 3-1](#page-7-0)**.

Step 2. Using the existing data sets, together with ground level riparian data collected by DEQ in 2000 and 2001, DEQ selected a set of 30 streams that represent the various conditions that exist within the Willamette Valley. The frequency of occurrence of factors that would influence vegetation height and canopy density for each type of stream throughout the Willamette Valley was quantified by mapping unit. The water bodies selected for this analysis are representative of the Willamette Valley and include the Willamette River, it's major tributaries, and streams of large and small watersheds ($4th$, $5th$ and $6th$ level hydrologic units). These waterbodies represent a range of quaternary geologic surfaces and other environmental conditions, and streams that are highly- to relatively little-altered from historic conditions. The sampled water bodies include the McKenzie, South Santiam, Pudding, Yamhill, Long Tom, Row, Mohawk, Mary's, Calapooia, and Luckiamute Rivers; Thomas, Crabtree, Mosby, Rickreall, Muddy, West Muddy, Oak, Mill, Flat, Lake, Patterson, Howell Prairie, Palmer, Ash, N. Fork Ash, Berry, and Beaver Creeks; and Walton and Sucker Sloughs. Each waterbody was sampled to 300 feet upland from the left bank and right bank. A Geographic Information System (GIS) was used to clip, intersect, and manage environmental data.

Figure 3-1: Data sets used in the analysis, from clockwise upper left: geomorphology, historic vegetation, ecoregions, and soils (inset near Willamette River).

Step 3. Analysis of geomorphology, ecoregions, geology, soils, ODFW 1998 Willamette Vegetation, and 1850s vegetation data sets examined the near-stream land cover along water bodies of different environments and characteristics. The goal was to assess the relationship between tree stands and other environmental factors along 1850s Willamette Valley water bodies. Based on this assessment, DEQ estimated which environments supported large coniferous trees, versus smaller deciduous trees, and environments that supported dense tree stands (forest) compared to sparse trees (savannas) or no trees (prairie). This approach does not attempt a return to historic conditions, but rather to establish what tree species are suitable to specific environments and determine the size of trees that may grow in a given area.

Step 4. DEQ invited experts from outside the agency to review the analysis and assumptions made from the analysis at this stage. Reviewers, listed in Appendix 1, provided suggestions that were incorporated into the final analysis to quantify the acreage for the historic vegetation of each type of mapping unit and soil drainage, as indicated in **[Table 3-1](#page-8-0)**.

¹Mapping units are described in Appendix 4.

Step 5. A data matrix was examined to identify the frequency of occurrence among environmental factors such as soil type, mapping unit, and the 1850s vegetation types. This information is found in Appendix 3.

Step 6. DEQ developed tables identifying the dominant paths of near-stream land cover, specifically mixed conifer-hardwood forest, hardwood forest, savanna, and prairie. DEQ and other agencies ground-verified existing vegetation during TMDL fieldwork in 2000 and 2001, and also verified it with the US Fish and Wildlife Service wetlands inventory and current vegetation maps (ODFW's 1998 Willamette Vegetation coverage). The successional path of the various 1850s vegetation types was projected and combined to produce a range of potential near-stream land cover types to be modeled for each mapping unit surface. The shade produced by the potential near-stream land cover is a surrogate target for the TMDL. Also, a healthy nearstream land cover will support important ecological processes associated with riparian vegetation.

Step 7. The final step in the analysis was to develop a set of "rules" for predicting potential near-stream land cover based on environmental conditions. These rules are intended to guide the TMDL temperature model simulations for potential land cover. Species composition for the various ecoregions in the Willamette Valley will be based on ecological knowledge of plant communities and historic vegetation. The corresponding tree heights will be estimated from current forest inventory plots for the Willamette Basin. Tree heights are listed Appendix 2.

3.2 Data Sources and Scale

DEQ analyzed sources of data that have been peer-reviewed and published, in addition to field observations conducted by DEQ. Data sources are available in an electronic format that can be used with GIS software by ESRI. Each GIS data source was clipped to 300 feet of the right and left bank.

A map of ecoregions by USGS-EPA provided the broadest scale environmental data. Ecoregions are vegetation classifications derived from physical data such as elevation, rainfall, temperature, and geology (Pater, et al. 1998). Ecoregions were used to estimate site productivity for forested areas. These are associated with the USFS derived Plant Associations, which are the basis of potential vegetation for Coast and Cascade Mountain Range forests.

The Quaternary geology map and report (O'Connor et al, 2001) provided information on the dominant mapping unit features and floodplain development for the Willamette Valley. It delineates areas of the Willamette Valley floodplain, older terraces, Missoula Flood Deposits, and other mapping unit surfaces that influence vegetation.

Soils maps were used from County Soil Surveys developed by the USDA Soil Conservation Service (SCS). Soil drainage was available from the SCS database.

The source of the historic, 1850s vegetation is a map and species list compiled by the Natural Heritage Program and Nature Conservancy from records of the GLO Surveyors, 1851 to 1865. Notes of their surveys along transects of section lines provide descriptions of streams and vegetation including tree species and size identification at each section corner.

Ecoregions were mapped at the coarsest scale, while soils were mapped at the finest scale. Geomorphology was mapped at relatively coarse scales, and historic vegetation was mapped at an intermediate scale.

3.3 Range and Assumptions for Modeling Natural Variability

An analysis that seeks to describe the relationship between plants and their physical environment must account for known natural spatial and temporal variability, and also for uncertainty. DEQ used a level of uncertainty and expected variability to determine the range of potential land cover for use in modeling stream temperatures. To achieve this, DEQ randomly distributed the range of potential vegetation types over each mapping unit surface.

Various researchers on historic fire disturbance in the Willamette Valley have drawn conclusions on the frequency, extent, and ignition sources of fires prior to Euro-American settlement. The 1850s vegetation reported in GLO Survey Notes reflects recent disturbance, including fires that may have resulted from Native American or Euro-American activity, and from lightning strikes. To consider relatively undisturbed vegetation for the purpose of modeling stream temperatures, DEQ estimated a range of potential vegetation cover given a level of disturbance. The level of disturbance is based on the belief that there are more trees today than in the 1850s due to a reduction in fire disturbance.

Savannas and prairies of the 1850s were maintained primarily by fire. Now these areas have soil and water levels capable of supporting more trees than existed at the time of the GLO surveys. Areas that were forests in the 1850s, have the potential to be forest again. Considering current knowledge about succession, DEQ estimates that today the potential vegetation of areas that were savanna in the 1850s is half forest and half

savanna. For areas that were prairies in the 1850s, DEQ estimate the potential vegetation to be half savanna and half prairie.

Tree heights for hardwood and conifer species are estimated from the published literature for high quality site conditions, Appendix 2. For modeling purposes, DEQ will assign a percent density canopy cover to each of the vegetation structures. For forested areas DEQ has assigned a tree density canopy cover of 85 percent, 50 percent for savanna, and 0 percent for prairie. Density is defined as the canopy closure. DEQ assumes that stands designated as coniferous in the 1850s GLO survey data, Appendix 3, were mixed coniferhardwoods in the riparian areas, because pure conifer riparian stands are rare or nonexistent in the Willamette Valley riparian area.

For Willamette TMDL development, DEQ modeled an expected range of variability in the coniferous upland riparian areas to account for the patchy nature of riparian vegetation. To calculate the expected range, DEQ determined the potential vegetation from USFS Plant Association Guides. Based on literature values for natural disturbance in forest stands (Teensma et al., 1991), DEQ assumes that at any given time about 25% of the near-stream vegetation would be disturbed.

4. Results of GIS Analysis and Planned Model Scenarios

The results of the analysis, summarized in **[Figure 4-1](#page-11-1)**, **[Figure 4-2](#page-12-0)**, and in Appendix 3, suggest that three mapping unit surfaces dominate the fluvial and riparian environments of the Willamette Valley bottom, the Willamette River floodplain deposits (Willamette River and major tributaries), alluvium of smaller streams, and the main body of the Missoula Flood deposits (medium and small streams).

surface.

The historic vegetation for all mapping units within the Willamette Valley, summarized in **[Figure 4-2](#page-12-0)**, indicates that although there is a continuum of relationships between vegetation structure (forest, savanna, and prairie), and that the mapping units can be grouped into four broad categories. The first category is mapping units dominated by forest (Qff1, Qfc, Qalc). The second is mapping units that were dominated by forest or savanna, and had considerable non-forest (prairie) vegetation (Qg1, Qau, Qalf, Qff2, and Qbf). The third category is a mapping units that had 90% prairie, and dry streams in summer (Qg2). The fourth category is mapping units in the upland areas (Tvc, QTg, Tvw, Tcr, and Tm). As already noted, for upland surfaces USFS Plant Associations will be used where available, rather than the 1850 vegetation mapped upland surfaces. The Willamette Valley mapping units in **[Figure 4-2](#page-12-0)** are ordered from those with the greatest proportion of forest and savanna (tree covered) when surveyed in the 1850s to those with the greatest proportion of prairie (non tree covered) (Qg2). **[Figure 4-2](#page-12-0)** also indicates the proportion of hardwoods (H) versus mixed conifer-hardwood stands (M) for forest and savanna vegetation types. Average tree heights for conifer stands are greater than for mixed conifer-hardwood stands, which are greater than for hardwood stands.

Analysis indicates that forest dominated three mapping units in the 1850s: Qalc, Qff1, and Qfc. The vast majority of the 7498 acres of these mapping unit types occur within or adjacent to the active floodplain of the Willamette River and major tributaries. Qalc are the recent floodplain deposits of the Willamette River and its major tributaries. Qff1 are fine-grained Missoula Flood deposits, and Qfc are coarse Missoula Flood deposits. Qff1 and Qfc occur adjacent to Qalc along the lower Willamette River. Additional information about mapping units is provided in Appendix 4.

Forest and savanna dominated five mapping units, historically, though four surfaces had a considerable proportion (30 to 46 percent) of prairie vegetation, Qalf, Qff2, Qbf, and Qfb. Qalf is alluvium of relatively small streams, Qff2 is the main body of Missoula Flood deposits, and Qbf is made of fine-grained alluvium deposits. The data indicates that 42 to 46 percent of the Qalf, Qff2, and Qfb units were prairie at the time of the GLO surveys. Together Qalf, Qff2, and Qbf made up the largest area (14,442 acres) of our sampled streams, reflecting the historic vegetation of the small and medium sized valley bottom streams, **[Table 3-1](#page-8-0)**.

Prairie units account for 30-34 percent of the landscape, and native prairie openings are considered an important part of the Willamette Valley ecosystem. The best function of these areas is to remain as native prairie rather than be planted with trees. According to mapping by Christy, et al, 1997, the mapping unit Qg2, sand and gravel, that pre-dates the Missoula Floods, had 90% prairie vegetation in the 1850s. The two streams sampled on this surface, Amazon Creek and Flat Creek, historically ran dry in the summer with water flowing subsurface.

The surfaces of the Cascade foothills and Coast Ranges were primarily forested in the 1850s. Where data are available, the USFS plant associations will be used to determine potential land cover for these upland coniferous forest landforms. For purposes of modeling, the upland coniferous forest vegetation types presented in Appendix 2 will be used.

5. Rules for Developing Potential Near-Stream Land Cover for Modeling Stream Temperature

The rules that follow document the logic for specific riparian vegetation inputs for modeling to predict stream temperature correlated with potential near-stream land cover for the Willamette Basin, except for the Tualatin and Lower Willamette Subbasins. The proportion of vegetation types listed in **[Table 3-1](#page-8-0)** were distributed over each appropriate mapping unit and inserted into the temperature model. The temperature model potential near-stream land cover was defined for each 50 foot by 100 foot sampled polygon. The potential near-stream land cover lookup table used in the temperature model to define each polygon is provided in Appendix 5.

Shade targets defining the effective shade for each mapping unit have been developed and apply to all streams within the Willamette Basin TMDL analysis area. The shade targets are presented in the form of a shade-curve for each mapping unit and the upland forest mountainous area, they are based on the water

bodies measured bankfull width and aspect. Shade-curves follow the rules presented for developing potential near-stream land cover, below. Shade-curves may be used to determine the appropriate potential effective shade for unmodeled streams, based on the extent of the specific mapping units for the waterbody.

- 1. In upland coniferous forests, large conifers are the potential near-stream land cover. Species composition and tree heights used are from the forested plant associations developed by the USFS (Logan et al., 1987).
- 2. Where native Willamette Valley wet and dry prairies remain well-established, native prairie ecosystems should be preserved and/or maintained.
- 3. Willamette Valley mapping units for which plant associations have not been developed; the vegetation types should be managed according to the following rules and ranges, after examining the results of temperature modeling. The proportion of hardwood stands and mixed conifer-hardwood stands have been derived from the 1850s GLO Survey vegetation database, Appendix 3. The proportions of forest, savanna, and prairie composition for each mapping unit are listed in **[Table 3-1](#page-8-0)**.
	- A. For Qalc, Qff1, and Qfc, which were historically forested mapping unit surfaces, the potential nearstream land cover is primarily mixed conifer hardwood forest.
		- For Qalc (Lower Willamette), DEQ will model forest cover at 80%, savanna 17%, and prairie 3%. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 4%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 93% and the portion of hardwoods is 3%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 80%, and the portion of hardwoods is 20% (Appendix 2).
		- For Qff1 (Lower Mainstem Willamette), DEQ will model forest cover at 81%, savanna 19% and no prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 84%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 3%, and the portion of hardwoods is 13%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwoodconifer is 60%, and the portion of hardwoods is 40%.
		- For Qfc (Lower Mainstem Willamette), DEQ will model forest at 56%, savanna 44% and no prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 15%, and the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 85%. For savanna land cover, the portion of conifer is 93%, and the portion of hardwoods is 7%.
	- B. The Qg1, Qau, Qalf, Qff2, Qbf, and Qg2 mapping units historically had primarily forest and savanna vegetation, but also had considerable prairie. For these units, DEQ will model forest, savanna and prairie similar to historic conditions and an increased tree cover based on knowledge of current vegetation and soil conditions.
		- For Qg1 (Mill Creek), DEQ will model forest cover at 41%, 44% savanna, and 15% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 8%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 59% and the portion of hardwoods is 33%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 50%, and the portion of hardwoods is 50%.
		- For Qau (Mohawk, upper Luckiamute, upper Oak, middle Thomas Creeks), DEQ will model forest cover at 60%, 23% savanna, and 17% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 29% and the portion of hardwoods is 71%. For savanna land cover, the portion of conifer is 5%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 17%, and the portion of hardwoods is 78%.
		- For Qalf (Pudding, Muddy Creek, Marys, Yamhill, South Fork Yamhill, Calapooia Rivers), DEQ will model forest at 52%, 28% savanna, and 20% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 4% and the portion of hardwoods is 96%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwoodconifer is 22%, and the portion of hardwoods is 78%.
- For Qff2 (Berry, Ash and North Fork Ash Creeks, upper Muddy (east), upper Lake Creek), DEQ will model forest at 43%, 35% savanna, and 22% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 19%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 59% and the portion of hardwoods is 22%. For savanna land cover, the portion of conifer is 5%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 34%, and the portion of hardwoods is 61%.
- For Qbf (Long Tom, upper Amazon, upper Crabtree Creek), DEQ will model forest cover at 47%, 30% savanna, and 23% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 21%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 48% and the portion of hardwoods is 31%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 81%, and the portion of hardwoods is 19%.
- C. For Qg2 (Amazon and Flat Creeks), which had 90% prairie vegetation along streams that historically became subsurface in the summer and for which water is currently artificially diverted to maintain summer flows, historic vegetation is probably not a good guideline for modeling potential present day stream temperature. Instead, DEQ will use nearest adjacent land potential land cover (see Upper Klamath TMDL for example).
- D. For the upland mapping units, Tvc, QTg, Tvw, Tcr, and Tm, DEQ will model using USFS plant associations and the Plant Association Group Model, and incorporate a range of land cover using disturbance suggested by the GIS analysis.
	- Where plant associations are not available, for Tvc (Rickreall Creek headwaters), DEQ will model forest at 60%, 39% savanna, and 1% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 21%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 79%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwoodconifer is 26%, and the portion of hardwoods is 74%.
	- For QTg (Small portions of upper Rickreall, Marys, Beaver Creek), DEQ will model forest cover at 77%, 14% savanna, and 9% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 95%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 4% and the portion of hardwoods is 1%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 90%, and the portion of hardwoods is 10%.
	- For Tvw (Upper Thomas, upper Crabtree, and east headwaters Muddy Creeks), DEQ will model forest cover at 57%, 39% savanna, and 4% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 84%, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 16%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 45%, and the portion of hardwoods is 55%.
	- For Tcr (Upper Mill Creek), DEQ will model forest cover at 63%, 27% savanna, and 10% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 93 %, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 7%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 77%, and the portion of hardwoods is 23%.
	- For Tm (Upper Ash, North Fork Ash, and upper Berry Creeks), DEQ will model forest cover at 56%,39% savanna, and 5% prairie. For forestland cover, the portion of conifer is 40%, and the portion of mixed hardwood-conifer is 60%. For savanna land cover, the portion of mixed hardwoodconifer is 59%, and the portion of hardwoods is 41%.

6. Principles for Implementing Willamette Valley Potential Near-Stream Land Cover

The implementation of the modeling and analysis of potential land cover types, to meet temperature TMDL requirements, will be based on three principles. This analysis is not intended to provide a blanket prescription for near-stream vegetation, but rather to recommend appropriate management direction for the areas pertinent to each recommendation.

The first principle is to plant trees in places that previously had tree cover, as indicated by the analysis. Areas that were historically forested and are currently not forested are the highest priority for reforestation.

The second principle is that areas that were historically savanna or prairie, but are currently forested, do not offer further opportunities for increasing stream shade. Existing trees should be retained on these areas.

The third principle is that areas that historically had prairie vegetation, due to fire or to soil and moisture conditions, are the lowest priority for establishing of tree cover. The analysis indicates that landscape diversity in the Willamette Valley is important. Maintaining some open areas can be ecologically important; however, other public goals may lead to establishing trees in these open areas.

In general, areas where the greatest difference is observed between historic/potential land cover and current land cover are the areas that provide the greatest opportunity for establishing near-stream vegetation. These areas are DEQ's highest priority for improving stream temperature for aquatic life.

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Appendix 1. Scientists Who Participated in Peer Review

Ed Alverson, Nature Conservancy Mack Barington, Oregon Department of Agriculture Pat Brenner, Oregon State University Stan Gregory, Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Steve Cline, Environmental Protection Agency Research Laboratory Dave Hibbs, Oregon State University, Department of Forestry Sherry Johnson, USDA Pacific Northwest Research Station Lynn McAllister, Environmental Protection Agency Research Laboratory Cindy McCain, Willamette and Siuslaw National Forests Pat McDowell, University of Oregon, Geography Department Maryanne Reiter, Weyerhauser Corporation Mindy Taylor, Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife James Wigington, Environmental Protection Agency Research Laboratory

Appendix 2. Tree heights used for modeling coniferous forest, mixed forest (hardwood and conifer), hardwood forest, and prairie.

System Potential Vegetation for Willamette Valley Ecoregion. Savanna tree heights are the same as forest, except the density of the canopy cover is reduced.

System Potential Vegetation for upland forest mountainous area with USFS Plant Associations available (Logan et al., 1987). Range for forests with and without disturbance.

Appendix 3. Mapping unit surface, 1850s vegetation type, and soil drainage acres

TMDLS FOR THE WILLAMETTE SUBBASINS, TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENT APPENDIX C 24

TMDLS FOR THE WILLAMETTE SUBBASINS, TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENT APPENDIX C

Appendix 4. Mapping Unit Surfaces identified in Origin, Extent, and Thickness of Quaternary Geologic Units in the Willamette Valley, Oregon. (O'Connor et al., 2001)

Qalc - Floodplain deposits of the Willamette River and major tributaries (Holocene and upper

Pleistocene) - Unconsolidated silt, sand, and gravel of the Willamette River and major Cascade Range tributaries. Includes active channel and modern floodplain surfaces. Meander-scroll topography with surfaces as high as 15 m above summer water stage. Drillers' logs and exposures indicate that unit thickness ranges up to 15 m. Isotopic dating, tephrochronology, and stratigraphic relations within the Willamette Valley indicate that these deposits are mostly younger than 12 ka.

Qalf - Alluvium of smaller streams (Holocene and upper Pleistocene) - Unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, and minor gravel deposited in floodplains and active channels of smaller streams and rivers. Variable surface morphology. Thickness not defined, but probably less than 10 m. Differentiated from units Qbf and Qau where clearly younger than Missoula Flood deposits. Mostly younger than 12 ka.

Qg1 - Sand and Gravel that postdates Missoula Floods (upper Pleistocene) - Alluvial sand and gravel deposited in broad braidplains within Willamette Valley and traced upstream as alluvial fills in major Cascade Range tributary valleys. Forms surfaces of large fans where major Cascade Range tributaries enter the Willamette Valley. Deposits now preserved as planar to slightly undulating terraces 0 to 15 m above the modern floodplain. Drillers' logs and stratigraphic exposures indicate that unit is up to 30 m thick. Stratigraphic relations and isotopic dating indicate that deposits primarily date from about 12 ka, although some areas mapped as Qg1 in the Eugene-Springfield area within the Cascade Range foothills may be substantially older.

Missoula Flood deposits (upper Pleistocene) - Unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, and gravel deposited by floods originating in glacial Lake Missoula that flowed down the Columbia River and backflooded into the Willamette Valley (Glenn, 1965; Allison, 1978). Largest flows reached stages of about 120 m above sea level in the map area. Maximum thickness of deposits about 35 m in northern Willamette Valley, thins to less than 1 meter at elevations above about 100 m. Radiocarbon dating, tephrochronology, and straigraphic relations from within and outside the map area indicate that most units date from about 15 to 12.7 ka. Divided into the following three types:

Qff1 - Younger and lower fine-grained Missoula Flood deposits - Clay, silt, sand, and minor gravel forming benches along Labish channel and Pudding River, and locally flanking Willamette River in northern Willamette Valley. Planar to undulating surface almost everywhere 40-50 m above sea level. Set into main-body fine facies (Qff2). Probably mostly deposited by latest Pleistocene Missoula Floods between 13.5 and 12.7 ka, but possibly includes late Pleistocene and early Holocene deposits of units Qalf and Qalc.

Qff2 - Main body of fine-grained Missoula Flood deposits - Stratified silt and clay with minor sand. Underlies much of Willamette Valley lowland floor. Many sections show rhythmic bedding, with up to 40 individual beds between 0.1 and 1.0 meter thick. Encloses sparse pebbles to boulders of types exotic to Willamette Basin. Forms undulating to planar topography in lowlands; mantles foothills below altitudes of 120 m. Mapped where thickness is sufficient to obscure previous topography. Commonly capped by up to two meters of late Pleistocene and Holocene alluvium, colluvium, and loess.

Qfc - Coarse Missoula Flood deposits - Bouldery, cobbly, sandy gravel fans deposited by Missoula Floods as they spilled into northern Willamette Valley through the Oregon City and Rock Creek gaps. Crudely stratified commonly with south-dipping foresets. Commonly capped by several meters of sandy silt, especially south of Willamette River. Drillers' logs indicate that thickness locally exceeds 30 m.

Qg2 - Sand and gravel that predates Missoula Floods (Pleistocene) - Unconsolidated to semiconsolidated sand and gravel deposited in broad braidplains and meandering floodplain environments within Willamette Valley and upstream as alluvial fills along major Cascade Range tributaries. Locally contains lahar deposits. Forms planar to slightly undulating terrace surfaces 0 m to 20 m above the modern floodplain and generally at

slightly higher elevations than adjacent surfaces of unit Qg1. Thickness not systematically determined but locally exceeds 100 m in broad fans formed where major Cascade Range tributaries enter the Willamette lowlands. Isotopic dating and tephrochronology indicate these deposits range from greater than 0.41 Ma to about 22 ka.

Qau - Alluvium, Undifferentiated (Holocene and Pleistocene) - Sand, silt, clay, and minor gravel deposited by smaller streams and rivers that enter the Willamette Valley, and by larger streams and rivers outside the area of detailed mapping. Age and thickness not determined.

Qbf - Fine-grained alluvium (Holocene and Pleistocene) - Clay, silt, sand, and minor gravel deposited in small basins flanking the Willamette Valley. Planar surfaces. Age and thickness not determined. Distinction with unit Qau locally arbitrary.

Qls - Landslide deposits and colluvium (Holocene and Pleistocene) - Unconsolidated and heterogeneous mixtures of rock fragments and soil. Some landslide deposits have hummocky surfaces. Colluvium mapped on steep debris-mantled slopes where underlying bedrock is not known. Only larger deposits mapped, mostly after Walker and McLeod (1991). Age and thickness not defined.

QTg - Weathered terrace gravel (Pleistocene and Pliocene?) - Alluvial sand and gravel preserved as terraces flanking Willamette Valley and tributary valleys. Terrace surfaces planar to undulating, with thick, strongly-developed soils, and severely weathered clasts. Terrace surfaces up to 100 m above modern floodplains. Drillers' logs and stratigraphic exposures indicate sand and gravel 0 to 60 m thick. May be in part equivalent to Troutdale Formation (QTt) as mapped near Molalla. Probably mostly deposited between 2.5 and 0.5 Ma.

UPLAND UNITS (primarily compiled from previous sources.)

QTb - Boring Lava (Pleistocene and Pliocene) - Gray to light-gray, open-textured olivine basalt lava flows. Only mapped in the northern part of map area after Hampton (1973). Up to 60 m thick. Ten radiometric ages on separate flows near Oregon City span 0.427+/-0.026 Ma to 3.15 +/-0.062 Ma (Madin, 1994).

QTt - Troutdale Formation (Pleistocene? And Pliocene) - Sand, gravel, sandstone, conglomerate, siltstone, and mudstone. Only mapped in northern part of map area after Trimble (1963) and Hampton (1972) where it is up to 150 m thick. May be locally equivalent to the weathered terrace gravel (QTg) near Molalla. Overlain by Boring Lava near Oregon City.

Tvw - Volcanic and volcaniclastic rocks in the Western Cascade Range, undivided (upper Eocene to Pliocene) - Lava flows, tuff, breccia, and volcaniclastic sediment of variable composition. Locally interfingers with marine sedimentary rocks (Tm) in the southern portion of map area. Includes the Fisher Formation, "volcanic rocks of the Western Cascade Range", and Sardine Formation as compiled by Gannett and Caldwell (1998). Youngest rocks are ridge-capping basalt flows in Santiam River drainage with reported ages as young as 2.8 +/- 0.3 Ma (Verplanck, 1985, cited in Walker and Duncan, 1989).

Tcr - Columbia River Basalt Group (Miocene) - Lava flows of dark gray to black, locally porphyritic basalt. Locally deeply weathered. Mostly between 16 and 15 Main northern Willamette Valley (M.H. Beeson, Portland State University, written communication, 1998). Also includes small areas of alluvium, colluvium, loess, and landslide debris. Distribution after Gannett and Caldwell (1998).

Tm - Marine sedimentary rocks (lower Miocene to Eocene) - Marine sandstone, siltstone, shale, and claystone,with lesser conglomerate; locally tuffaceous. Also includes numerous small mafic intrusions, and small areas of alluvium, colluvium, loess, and landslide debris. Distribution after Gannett and Caldwell (1998).

Tvc - Volcanic rocks of the Coast Range (Eocene) - Basaltic pillow lava, tuff breccia, subaerial basalt lava flows, and sills, with interbeds of basaltic sandstone, siltstone, and conglomerate. Includes small areas of alluvium, colluvium, loess, and landslide debris. Distribution after Gannett and Caldwell (1998).

Note: "Am" refers to millions of years before present, and in this report is used to indicate radiometric and fission track ages on volcanic rocks. "ka" refers to kiloannum, indicating thousands of radiocarbon years before present.

Appendix 5. Mapping Unit Potential Near-Stream Land Cover Quantitative Look-up Table for the Temperature Model Input

