

ATTACHMENT A
Riparian road reconstruction impacts: floodplain (August 30, 2006)



Fig. A-1. Red alder thicket is cut below the widened road edge. Slash, plant debris and loose graded silt is deposited over the bank, above the active winter overflow channel of the Wheatfield fork (right). Note the canopy gap through the mature riparian zone on both sides of road, leaving only alders below grading/”brush clearing” line to provide streamside canopy cover and shade. Road bank upslope is partially

devegetated, also lacking tree canopy.



Fig. A-2. Riparian ground layer (California blackberry thicket) is buried by road grading sediments deposited on steep bank below the outer floodplain road edge, north bank of Wheatfield Fork; gravel bed of winter high flow channel is in background below channel bank-edge mature red alder trees. Riparian tree and shrub layer is missing. Debris and sediment extends to the bed. This bank was continuously vegetated

by California blackberry, alder, and horsetail (remnants of which persist at edge of spoils area). Bank top is below flood elevation, indicated by persistent flood debris in alder branches, and silt deposits on road.



a



b

Fig A-3. Slash and loose sediment are deposited at top the widened road in the floodplain riparian zone; road now spills over the formerly vegetated riparian bank. Winter high flow channel bed is directly below. Bank top is below flood elevation, indicated by persistent flood debris in alder branches and silt deposits on road.



a



b

Fig. A-4. Slash and loose sediment are deposited in a wide swath from the widened road edge across the riparian floodplain vegetation, towards the winter high flow channel (background), covering over willows, alders, California blackberry, and horsetail. Large riparian canopy gap extends over graded area. This zone is below flood elevation, indicated by persistent flood debris in alder branches and thick silt deposits on road.



a

b

Fig. A-5. Single and double road widths. (a) Loose silt is deposited over road edge and into riparian woodland and forest. Side-cast graded silt spills over steep channel bank. Road here represents a single truck width, the approximate original width. Contrast with (b), widened road segment in right photo, almost double the width, extending into riparian forest. Note tree stumps (background) with fresh wood exposed.



a

b

Fig. A-6. Road grading spoils and slash deposited over steep bank above winter flood channel, viewed from bed. Note riparian canopy gap.



Fig. A-7. Road grading spoils (yellow arrow) deposited over steep bank above channel pool with fish and frogs, flood channel, viewed from channel pool.