



Set Some Goals for Your Riparian Area

No matter what the score, or the category of health, taking the next step is about using riparian health evaluations to help you set some goals. These goals might look like this:

1



Prevent potential problems by maintaining the healthy reaches of stream or portions of shoreline; that way, you don't have to treat the symptoms.

3



Encourage, protect and promote native vegetation to enhance recovery, restoration and maintenance of health.

5



Monitor your progress, be patient with restoration and recovery efforts, and repeat what works.

2



Reduce the pressure or stress that is causing health to decline; don't let conditions get worse.

4



Fix the broken pieces to restore structure and function; do it while the problems are small, and before they become larger.

6



Work with your neighbours to make sure your efforts meld together, on a larger scale.

If we can recognize the stresses, reduce the pressures, be patient and let the system rebound, conditions will improve, assuming most key pieces are still intact. If some of those key pieces (e.g. woody vegetation) have gone missing, recovery will be more difficult and take more time.