

A Conceptual Framework For Restoration Performance Assessment

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Stream Restoration is a billion dollar industry

Measuring Performance and Successful Outcomes?

Nationwide- Current monitoring and assessment lacks standardization and meaningful analysis



C- Target



B- Intermediate



A- Initial



Evolution

Change- Active /
Passive

1. Assessment



2. Design



3. Construction



4. Post-Construction Monitoring



Restoration Performance Monitoring Today

- Misapplication / overreaching of existing metrics and tools for restoration monitoring
- Accounting without meaningful analysis
- Communication breakdown



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Photo by Forbes.com



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Advancing the Science

- 1. Stream restoration needs standards**
- 2. Standards should be based on a conditional framework**
- 3. Implementing standards will require regionally-appropriate performance metrics.**
 - a) Finding a common “thread” or universally applicable characteristics**

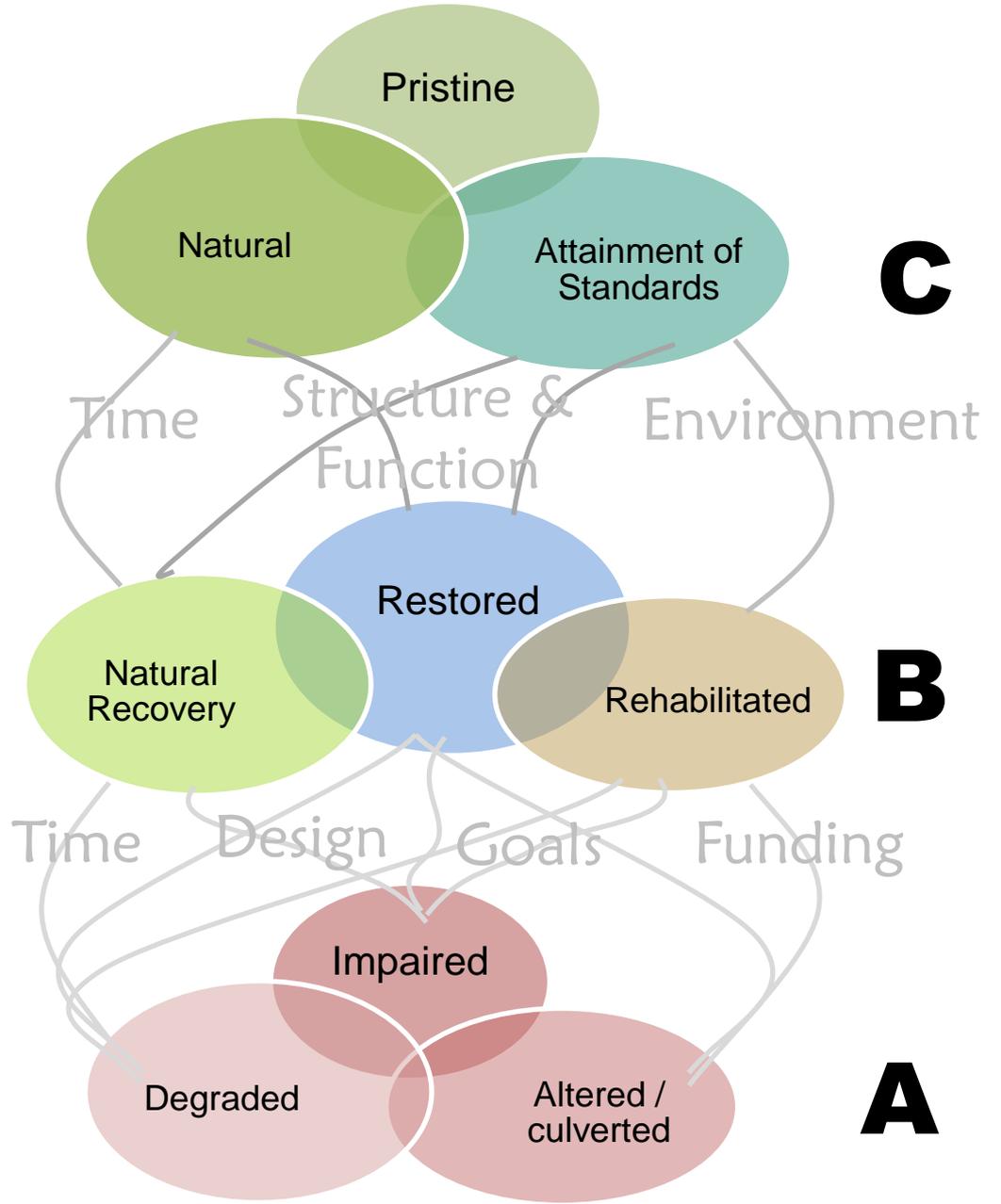
Conceptual Framework

Target Condition

Intermediate Condition

Factors that influence the change from each condition

Initial Condition



C- Target
74

B- Intermediate
56

A- Initial
43



Evolution

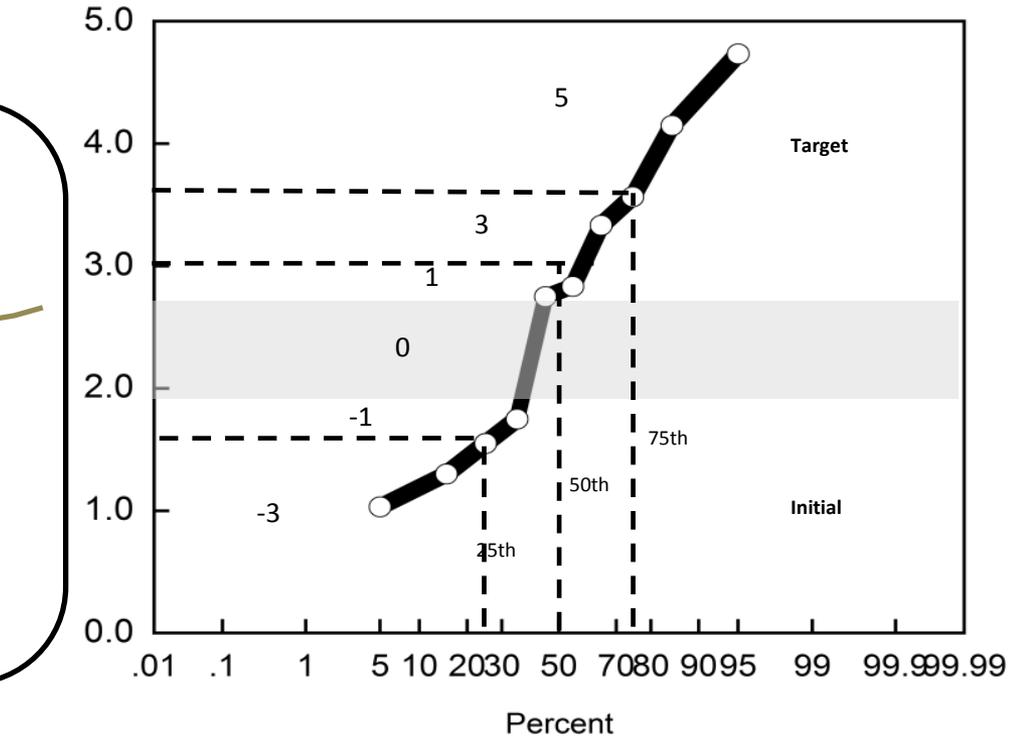
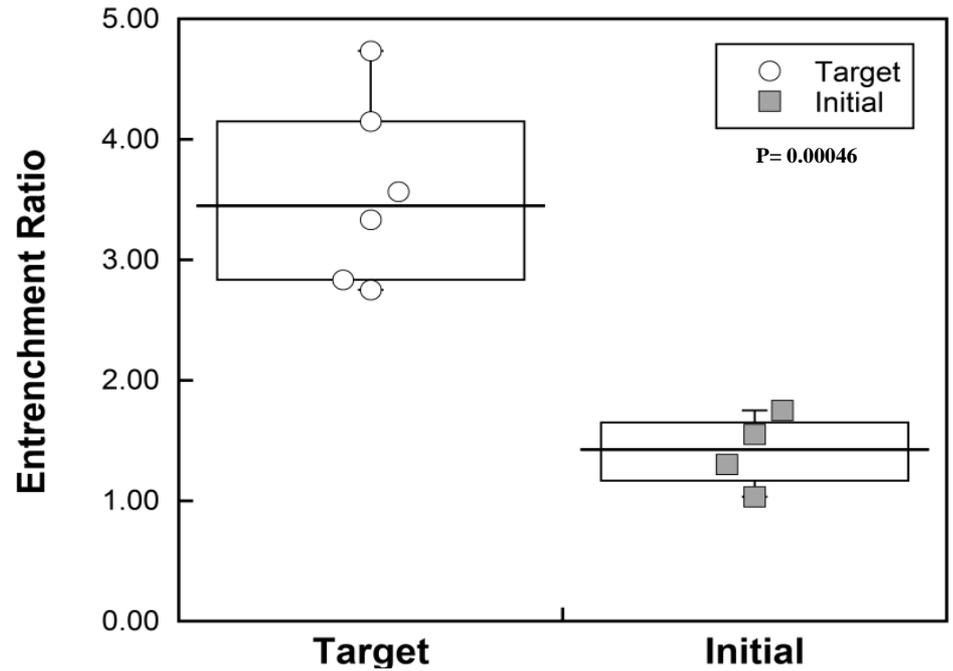
Construction

Metric Development

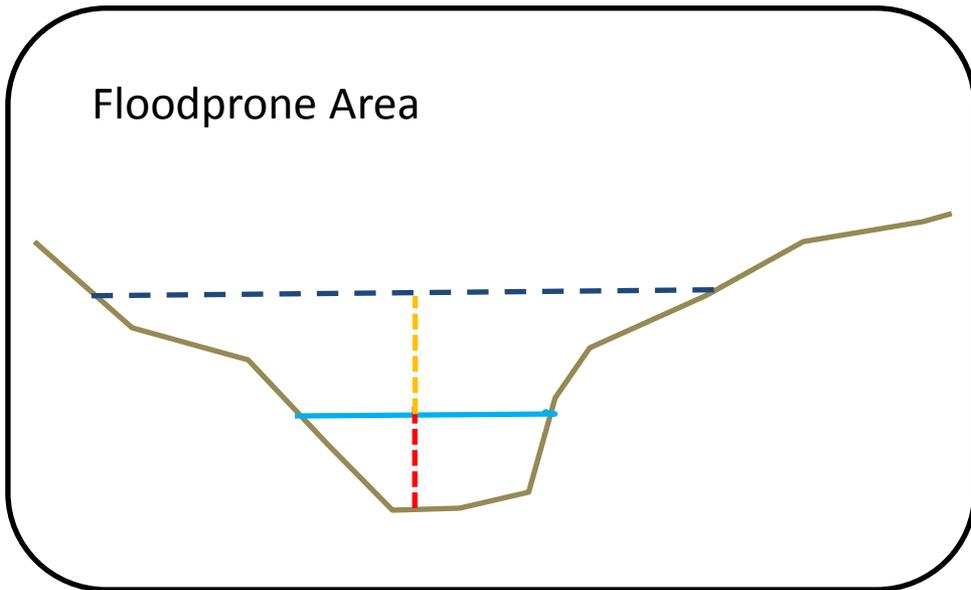
- Metrics are needed to apply the framework
- To develop a regional scale
- Creation of new metrics or re-organization of existing metrics
- Goals and Motivations for influence the metrics
 - Diverse possibilities
 - Dynamic endpoint
 - Cultural / Societal / Aesthetic
- Different Project Types would require different metrics (i.e. bank stabilization vs. stream realignment)

Metric Development

- Keys for development
- Universal Characteristics of

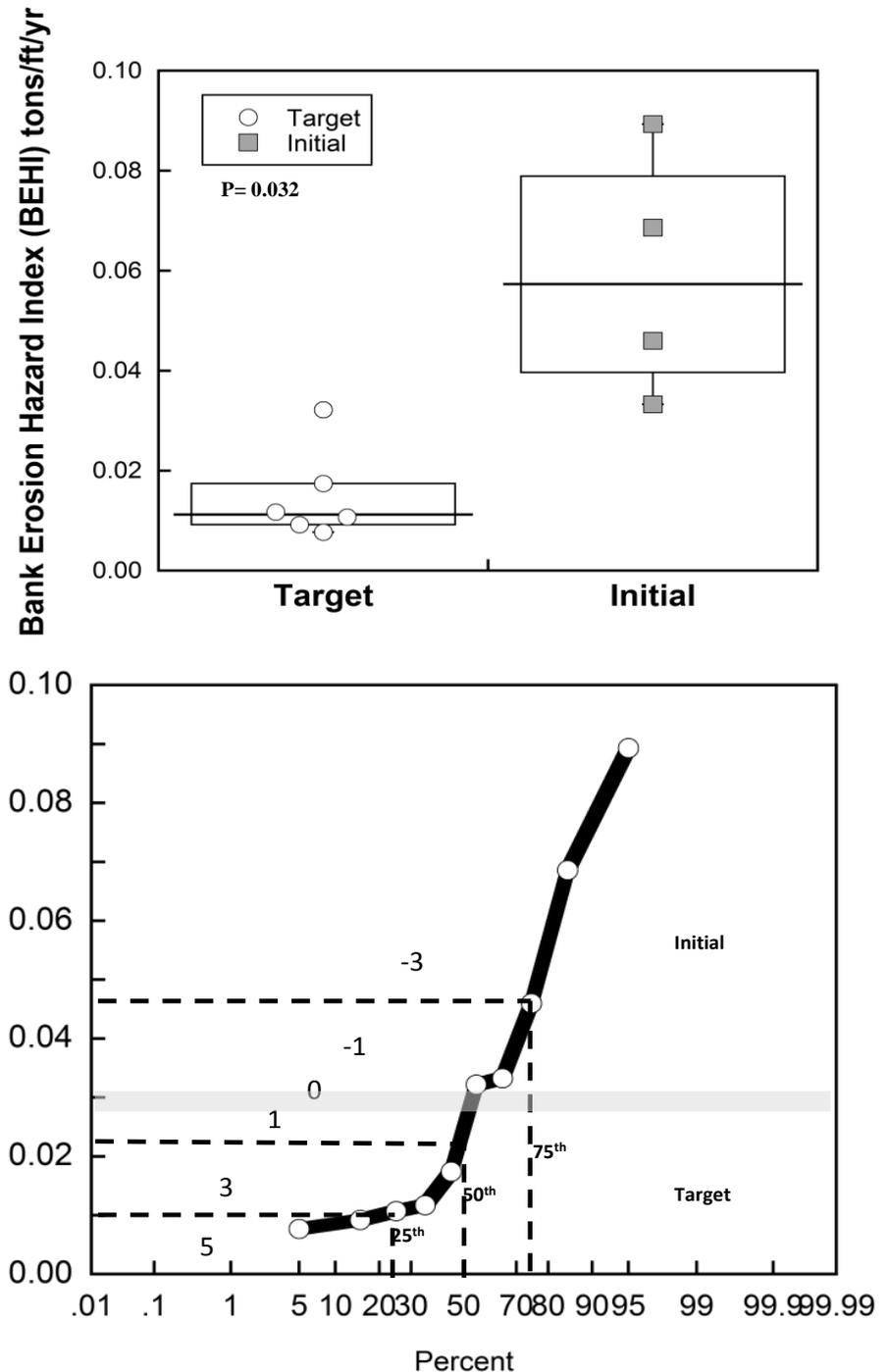


Floodprone Area



Streambank Erosion Rate

- BEHI / NBS
- Estimate Rate (tons/ft/year)

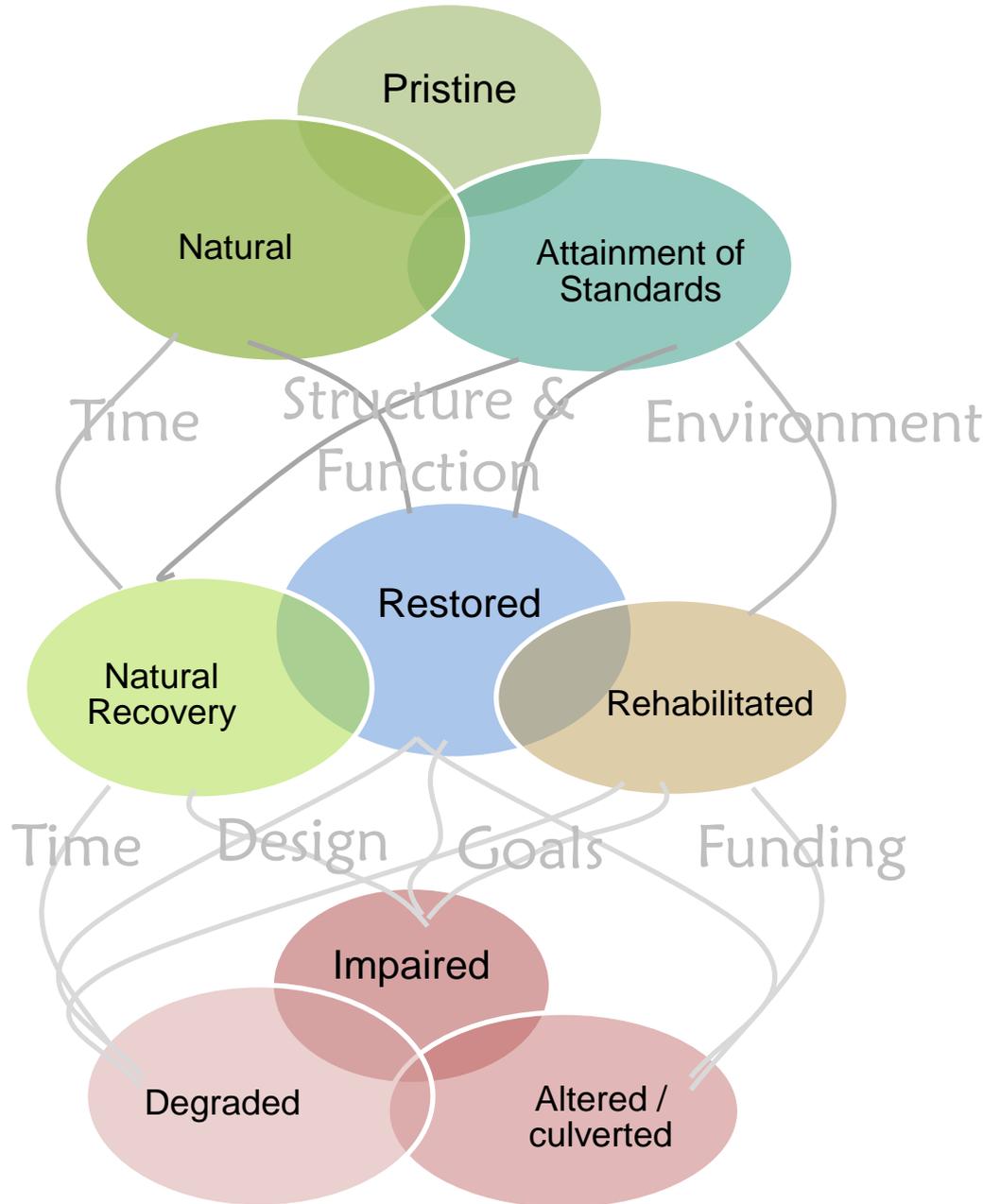


Potential Application

Target Condition
75-100

Intermediate Condition
45-70

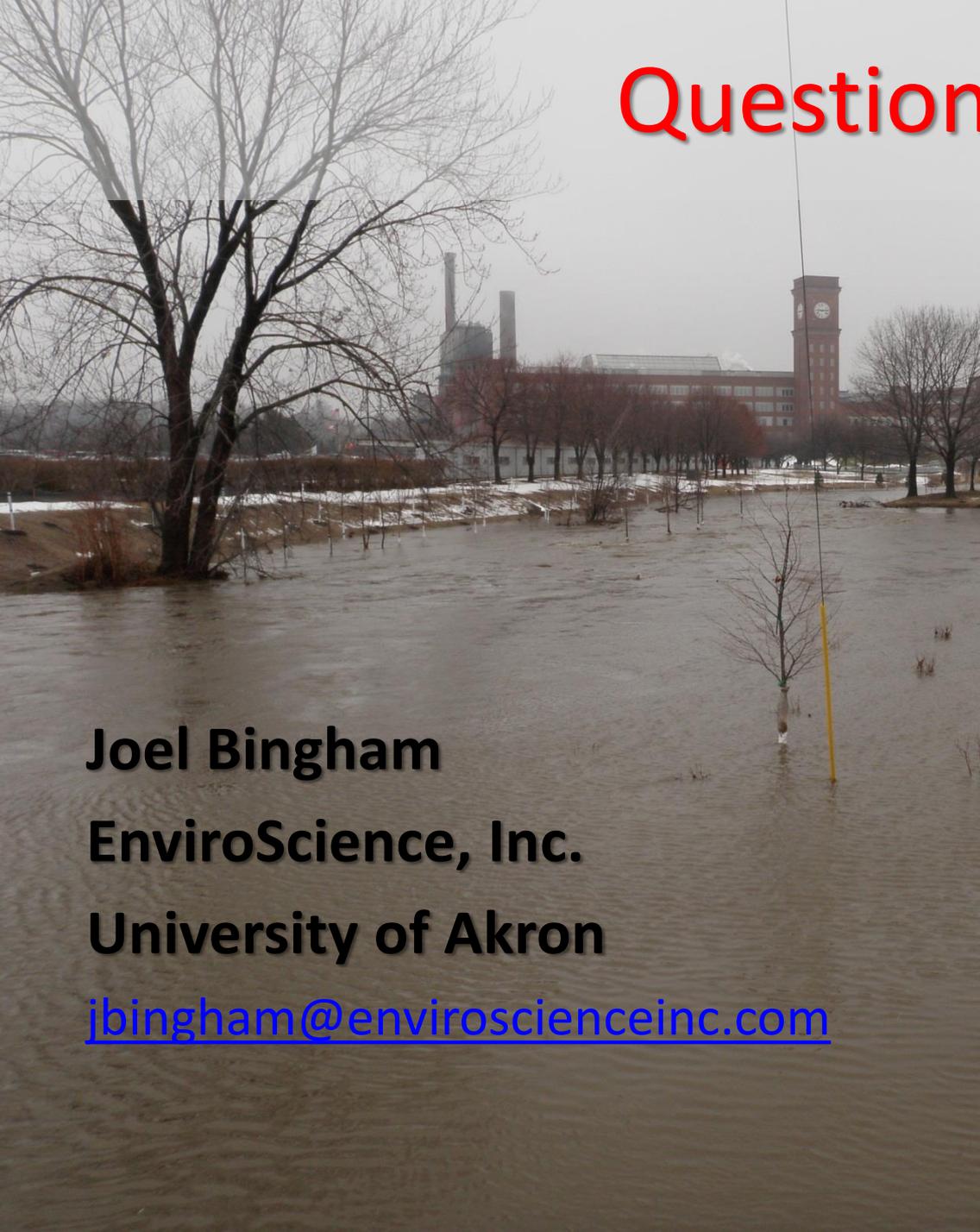
Initial Condition
0-40



Summary

- Standards need to be developed but to achieve that goal we need to speak a common language.
- Conditional Framework representing conditional “change” that occurs with restoration
 - 1. Human Intervention
 - 2. Natural Evolution
- Metrics developed or re-calibrated to the conditional scale can be used to plot the trajectory of a project.
- Standardized Framework improves communication and data analysis potential
- Next Steps:
 - Develop and Test Metrics for various project types
 - Calibrate scale to the conditional framework

Questions



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