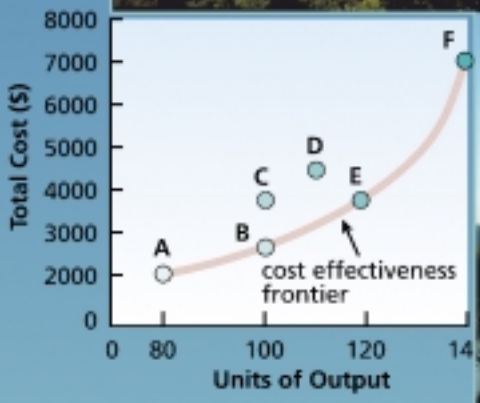
Part II

# Developing A Restoration Plan



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# II Developing a Stream Corridor Restoration Plan

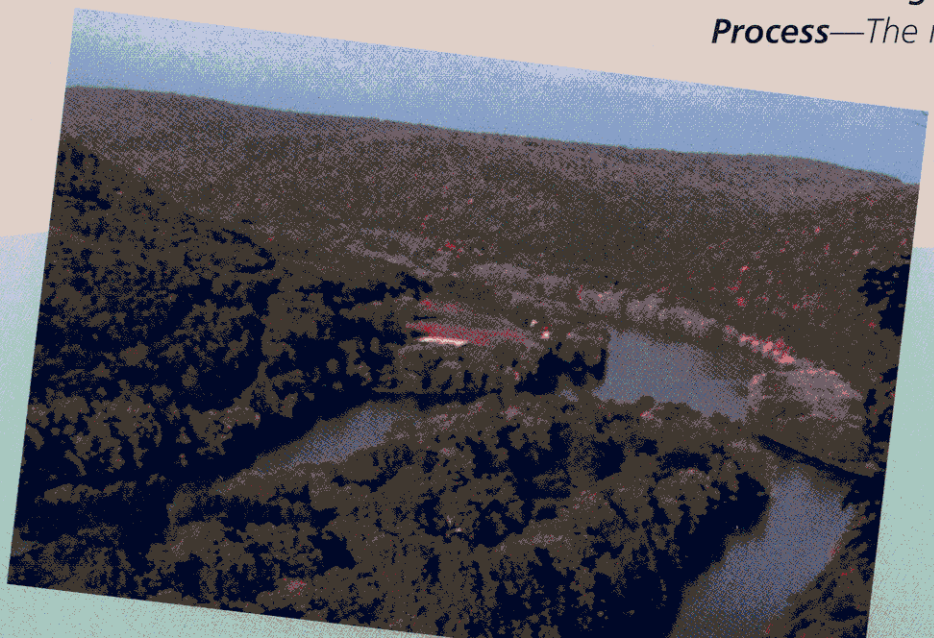

**Chapter 4:** Getting Organized and Identifying Problems and Opportunities

**Chapter 5:** Developing Goals, Objectives, and Restoration Alternatives

**Chapter 6:** Implement, Monitor, Evaluate, and Adapt


*A well conceived and developed stream corridor restoration plan is critical to any restoration effort. The restoration plan establishes a framework for documenting the processes, forms, and functions operating within the corridor, identifying disturbances that disrupt or eliminate those functions, and planning and implementing restoration activities. The restoration plan essentially serves as the cornerstone of the restoration effort by achieving several key functions.*

- ***Problem Solving Framework****—The restoration plan establishes a framework for addressing critical stream corridor restoration issues, problems, and needs. As such, it prevents disjointed decision-making and facilitates the organization of restoration activities.*
- ***Documenting the Results of the Process****—The restoration plan serves as a record of all subsequent activities by outlining the restoration process. As a result, the plan enables*



the transfer of "lessons learned" to other groups undertaking restoration efforts and helps legitimize the restoration process.

- ***Communication and Outreach***—*The restoration plan serves to communicate the elements of the corridor restoration process to the public and other interested parties. It also serves an important symbolic function in that it represents the common vision of multiple partners.*

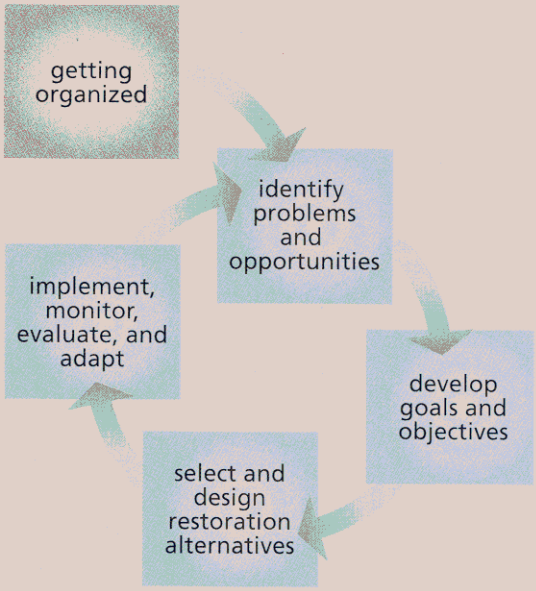
*The overall objective of the restoration plan will differ depending on local needs and objectives. Each corridor restoration initiative has unique ecological, social, and economic conditions that dictate activities to meet specific needs and changing circumstances. Despite these differences, the restoration plan should emphasize the ecological integrity of the stream corridor.*

**The restoration plan should emphasize the maintenance and restoration of the ecological integrity and the dynamic stability of the stream corridor by focusing on multiple scales, functions, and values.**

### *A Note About Scope*

*Although the concepts presented in these chapters are appropriate for all restoration initiatives, the organizational structure can be simplified for smaller restorations.*

*Not all restorations are complex or costly. Some may be as simple as a slight change in the way that resources are managed in and along the stream corridor involving only minor costs. Other restoration initiatives, however, may require substantial funds because of the complexity and extent of the measures needed to achieve the planned restoration goals.*




***The Stream Corridor Restoration Plan Development Process***

*In recognition of the diversity of restoration plan objectives, Part II of the document focuses on identifying and explaining a general restoration plan development process that each initiative should follow. This process is characterized as a decision-making process composed of several steps (see illustration). These fundamental steps include: getting organized; identifying problems and opportunities; developing goals and objectives; selecting and designing restoration alternatives; and implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and adaptation.*

*Each of these steps can be integrated into any program- or agency-specific restoration planning process. In addition, these steps*

*should not be viewed as sequential, but iterative in nature. Many of the fundamental steps may be repeated or may occur simultaneously. In addition, the process, which is based on the philosophy of adaptive management, should be flexible enough to adjust management actions and directions in light of new information about the corridor and about progress toward restoration objectives.*

*Part II consists of three chapters and is organized in accordance with the fundamental steps of the restoration plan development process.*

- ***Chapter 4*** *introduces the first two steps of plan development. The first portion of the chapter focuses on the basics of getting organized and presents key steps that should be undertaken to initiate the restoration process. The remainder of the chapter centers on problem/opportunity identification and introduces the basics of stream corridor condition analysis and problem assessment.*
- ***Chapter 5*** *presents information concerning how restoration goals and objectives are identified and how alternatives are designed and selected.*
- ***Chapter 6*** *concludes with a discussion of implementation of restoration as well as monitoring and evaluation.*