

Fluvial Geomorphologic Assessment of Cobbs Watershed

Planning Project

Darby-Cobbs Watershed



Contact: Marc Cammarata
215.685.4948
marc.cammarata@phila.gov

Status: Completed

Partners:

Darby-Cobbs Watershed Partnership

Philadelphia Water Department

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A geomorphologic stream survey of Cobbs Creek was completed in November and December 2001. This survey involved walking the entire length of the main stem and its tributaries, approximately 18 miles, in order to record specific information about the channel and surrounding habitat. One representative stream channel cross section, including local slope, was measured per reach. Measured field data was compiled to determine stream channel types for each reach and to help evaluate channel stability. Qualitative habitat data was collected and used to determine what types of habitat are adjacent to the stream channel. Both the measured and qualitative data were evaluated for correlations between the natural and urbanized environment.



Benefits:

- The study will aid in the analysis of flow patterns within the Cobbs Watershed which will allow for the conceptual planning of restoration projects. The goal of these projects will be to mitigate the effects of storm flow on the stream by decreasing the erosive effects of the stormwater, decreasing the quantity of water that reaches the stream, and stabilizing and restoring the banks using bioengineering techniques.
- The study will provide data that will be used in developing an approach for the restoration of Cobbs Creek with an emphasis on hydraulic sustainability, enhancement of riparian habitat, improved aesthetics, and biological improvement.



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