Stream Restoration From the Perspective of the Natural Resource Conservation Service[AFS]

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Planners, designers and contractors developing and constructing stream restoration projects need to balance the hands on, the art, the necessary experience and the sciences to provide a quality stream restoration project that considers the human, social, environmental and economic needs associated with a particular stream project. The planner needs to ask what, if anything, should be done to a stream. Should it be left alone, should a change in management be given priority, or should the designer install many of the currently popular green engineering options? An experienced planner and/or designer should be able to answer these questions as they provide advice to their clients. No one discipline has all the answers. To conduct a quality stream restoration project requires training, experience, and several interdisciplinary professionals. The restoration requires quality planning, adequate design, drawings, specifications and necessary permits that are compliant with all federal and state law. A determination should be made whether a particular stream restoration is considered engineering and covered by the Montana Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors LAFS and Rules. This presentation will attempt to define the science required, the permits, the lAFS, and the interdisciplinary knowledge and abilities needed to conduct a quality and beneficial stream restoration project.