



River Characteristic: Intermittent

Description

Intermittent flows are waters that flow or exist sporadically or periodically often due to surface water runoff. Intermittent flows often occur at certain times of the year when groundwater levels are adequate and may cease entirely in low water years or be reduced to a series of separated pools.

General Condition of Feature

No data available.

Associated Species of Greatest Conservation Need

In the literature examined for species habitat information, intermittent was not mentioned.

Associated Threats (no threats were discussed in workshops)

MODIFICATION OF NATURAL PROCESSES

- Altered hydrologic regimes

Conservation Actions Needed (Threats addressed)

LAND, WATER & SPECIES MANAGEMENT

- Maintain or rehabilitate river to original flow paths and hydrologic functions, i.e., seasonal flooding, throughflow, wetlands (altered hydrologic regimes)

LAW & POLICY

- Encourage sound water withdrawal practices that take into account species needs (altered hydrologic regimes)
- Limit water withdrawal in flow limited or groundwater fed systems (altered hydrologic regimes)
- Protect and rehabilitate groundwater recharge by requiring that all development-related runoff be captured by infiltration basins (altered hydrologic regimes)

EDUCATION & AWARENESS

- Educate legislators, other policy makers, and the public about intermittent streams and their importance

Research and Survey Needs

- Determine species that use this habitat
- Determine the amount and condition of intermittent streams
- Determine the importance of intermittent streams in individual watersheds
- Determine conservation actions needed
- Determine threats to intermittent streams
- Develop a list of research needs
- Develop a list of monitoring needs

Monitoring

- Channel modification
- Dredging and channelization
- Riparian modifications
- Stream enclosures
- Wetland and floodplain modification