Restored & Constructed Wetlands for Phosphorus & Sediment Removal



STEVE PATTERSON BIO X DESIGN OCLWA 2015 - STILLWATER, OK - APRIL 8-9, 2015

Oklahoma's Nonpoint Source Management Program (2014-2024):

"Wetland restoration, construction, and/or protection for water quality treatment or improvement...are appropriate in nearly all types of land uses or sources, and to address multiple types of causes."





- Wetland restoration
- Constructed wetlands
 - Treatment wetlands



- Processes-based
 - Restoration--what are the ecological & physical processes that create & maintain the wetland you want to restore?
 - Treatment wetlands—what are the processes that you want to use?

- 6 basic wetland types:
 - Swamp
 - Marsh
 - Shallow water
 - Wet meadow
 - Fen
 - Bog



Unit processes in a conventional wastewater treatment plant



Primary wetland processes: that provide water quality improvement:

Sedimentation & trapping:

- of particles & sediment; shallow quiescent water + biofilm capture & flocculation
 - no carbon

Metabolization:

- of pollutants (eg, nitrate, some pesticides)
 - labile carbon

Immobilization:

- Of pollutants (eg, heavy metals & some pesticides)
 - refractory carbon





Pesticide removal

-O- Outlet

San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

- Both treatment and habitat goals
- Maximize nitrate (NO₃-N) removal rates
- Maintain 90% open water and episodically exposed shoreline for avian habitat
- > 80% removal efficiency for total inorganic nitrogen (TIN) and 60% for total nitrogen (TN)
- Avian species richness 65 to 76 (& up 200) species of shorebirds and waterfowl





Upper Truckee River & Wetland Restoration Project South Lake Tahoe, CA

The Project Team:

- California Tahoe Conservancy
- California Department of General Services
- > EDAW, Inc.
- ENTRIX, Inc.





Lake Tahoe Annual Average Secchi Depth



"What people want is to be able to see their toes when they are standing in about 3 or 4 feet of water."

Administrator

Pre-development Conditions

December 1930









Ozarks Streams



Over the last 100 years, Ozarks streams have become wider and shallower...

Source: USGS Ozarks Stream Geomorphology Project http://www.cerc.usgs.gov/rss/osgp/projecttour.htm





















Trout Creek floodplain vs Upper Truckee

- Removes 90% of fine particles
- Removes 3-4 times the total P



Questions?