

Pre-Screening BEHI Evaluation

If the bank in question is exhibiting 2 or more of the following then proceed with the BEHI protocol. If the bank is not exhibiting 2 or more do not proceed with the BEHI protocol because the bank is exhibiting little to no erosion (i.e very low to low BEHI rating).

1. Does the bank exhibit less than or equal to 50% protection at the toe.
 - The toe is located at the base of the bank where it meets the water; on average the bottom 6-8 inches.
 - Protection includes: boulders, rocks the stream can not move (has to be larger than the largest size of rock on depositional bars), large woody debris embedded in bank, rooted vegetation.
 - Bedrock counts as toe protection however, if you are able to break/pull pieces this does not count as toe protection. For example, in this area you will often find weathered shale which does not function the same way as bedrock.
2. Does 50% or more of the bank exhibit an undercut of 0.5 feet or more?
3. Does 50% or more of the bank exhibit stratification?
 - Stratification is a clearly defined break in geology (i.e. change in material type).
 - One layer of the stratification must be of erodible material: sand, gravel, matrix (combination of sand, gravel), weathered shale.
4. Does 50% or more of the bank have a bank height of 10 feet or more with 50% or more soil exposure?
 - Often times this is indicative of an incised channel (i.e. large shale walls).
5. Does 50% or more of the bank exhibit roots lacking bank material (soil)?
6. Is 50% or more of the bank void of rooted vegetation?