

Site: Steven’s Pond, Score: 3

	General Survey	Bird Survey
Time:	13:00 – 17:00	08:00 – 09:30
Date:	August 4, 2004	August 7, 2004
Volunteers:	Leslie, Zach, Tsang, Hannah	Leslie, Rebecca, Zach
Weather:	Very hot, 90+?	Sunny, beautiful

Access: We parked in the mill parking lot and then turn left at the gate by the pond to get to the more densely vegetated section. The pond edge was not accessible to the north where it is bordered by a mill building.

Ownership: We observed some interesting activity at this site relative to removal of some substantial debris. We met a man named “Mark” who mentioned he was there “cleaning things up” (although Leslie was suspicious of this). He asked us what we were doing and wanted to make sure we weren’t dumping any trash.

Trails: We explored one pretty clear path along the old railroad tracks.

Summary: Stevens Pond is a highly connected area with a number of different community types including the grasslands along the old railroad tracks, the pond itself, as well as the forested area connecting these two habitats.

Transformation: Volunteers were really inspired by the pond. They discussed the possibility of taking a boat out to get a closer look at the wildlife along its edges. At the same time, they were interested in finding out more about water quality at the site and associated safety concerns. This pond did not score very well in the community evaluation largely due to its sparse vegetative border.



Stevens Pond ERA score:

Site:	Stevens Pond	Stevens Pond	Averages
<i>Transects:</i>			
Plants	26	1	1
Birds	10	0	0
Soil		-1	0.33
<i>Absence/Presence:</i>			
Tree >20 cm DBH (forest habitat)	Yes	1	1.00
Tree >20 cm DBH (non- forest habitat)	No	1	-0.29
Standing Water	Yes	-1	-0.14
Moving Water	Yes	1	1
Seasonal Water	No	0	0
Invasive Exotic	Yes	-1	-1
Wildlife Enhancements	No	0	0
Tame Wildlife	No	0	0
Community factors		2	0.86
Refuse	Large leaky items (cars, refrigerators)	-2	-1.57
<i>Map Analysis:</i>			
Impervious Surface	9%	1	1.14
Connectivity		1	0
Area	4.05 acres	0	-0.43
Total:		3	1.71
Notes:			

Site: Central Catholic, Score: 4

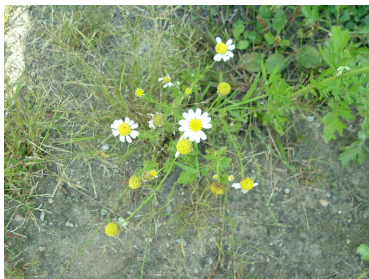
	General Survey	Bird Survey
Time:	10:00 – 12:30	7:00-8:00
Date:	August 7, 2004	August 18, 2004
Volunteers:	Rebecca, Leslie, Zach	Jashire
Weather:	Beautiful, sunny	Warm, clear

Access: We parked in the school parking lot. This was not only allowed, but a high school teacher that Leslie knew offered us beverages and use of the bathroom facilities. It was easiest to access the riparian vegetation from the south bank, so we stayed on this side.

Ownership: We refer to this site as Central Catholic rather than FEMA because it seems like more people recognize it this way.

Summary: The field behind this high school had the most plant species observed in this study, perhaps because of intermittent inundation. Bird diversity was also highest at this site. We also noticed a massive debris dam in the stream at this site, another indicator of potential stream power.

Transformation: This site could be an asset to nearby classrooms. One volunteer commented that he liked this site best because he got to stay longer and count more plants; he would like stakeholders to “clean-up the site and build a beautiful park.” A first step would be to address the abandoned building on the site.



Central Catholic 2004 ERA Scores:

Site:	Central Catholic	Central Catholic	Averages
<i>Transects:</i>			
Plants	51	2	1
Birds	12	1	0
Soil		0	0.33
<i>Absence/Presence:</i>			
Tree >20 cm DBH (forest habitat)	Yes	1	1.00
Tree >20 cm DBH (non- forest habitat)	Yes	-1	-0.29
Standing Water	No	0	-0.14
Moving Water	Yes	1	1
Seasonal Water	No	0	0
Invasive Exotic	Yes	-1	-1
Wildlife Enhancements	No	0	0
Tame Wildlife	No	0	0
Community factors		1	0.86
Refuse	Extensive litter	-1	-1.57
<i>Map Analysis:</i>			
Impervious Surface	7%	1	1.14
Connectivity		0	0
Area	1.38	0	-0.43
Total:		4	1.71
Notes:			

Site: Hayden-Schofield Park, Score: 2

	General Survey	Bird Survey
Time:	8:00-12:00	08:20-09:00
Date:	August 11, 2004	August 18, 2004
Volunteers:	Rebecca, Zach	Jashire, Leslie
Weather:	Overcast/rainy	Sunny, clear

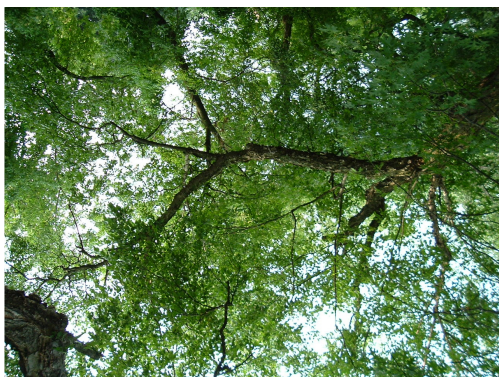
Access: We parked next to a line of taxis at the southwest corner of the park and walked along the fence to the one opening that leads down to the Spicket. Again, we only surveyed the north shore of this reach because the other side was fenced and we didn't have waders with us.

Ownership: I was curious about the number of taxis gathered near the fenced-in corner of the park.

Trails: There is a slightly worn trail along the river that stops when you get to the bridge.

Summary: The site in this park that we studied is characterized primarily by riparian vegetation; species of note included river birch and potentially American elm. This site probably gets some visitors because the path seemed pretty worn, and there was some dog waste. This may also explain why we noticed very few birds at this site.

Transformation: Volunteers seems to like the idea of a trail along this stretch of the river. I envision a pervious trail through continuous riparian buffer. We also noticed some artwork hanging form the fence at this park, a tribute to the site's potential as a forum for community discourse.



Hayden-Schofield 2004 ERA Score:

Site:	Hayden-Schofield	Hayden-Schofield	Averages
<i>Transects:</i>			
Plants	26	1	1
Birds	5	0	0
Soil	No Data	No Data	0.33
<i>Absence/Presence:</i>			
Tree >20 cm DBH (forest habitat)	Yes	1	1.00
Tree >20 cm DBH (non-forest habitat)	No	0	-0.29
Standing Water	No	0	-0.14
Moving Water	Yes	1	1
Seasonal Water	No	0	0
Invasive Exotic	Yes	-1	-1
Wildlife Enhancements	No	0	0
Tame Wildlife	No	0	0
Community factors			0.86
Refuse	Extensive litter	-1	-1.57
<i>Map Analysis:</i>			
Impervious Surface	No	2	1.14
Connectivity		0	0
Area	.66	-1	-0.43
Total:		2	1.71
Notes:			

Site: Immigrant Park, Score: 2

	General Survey	Bird Survey
Time:	9:00-12:00	07:00-08:00
Date:	August 18, 2004	August 21, 2004
Volunteers:	Jashire	Leslie
Weather:	Sunny, hot	Overcast

Access: We surveyed the south bank of this reach that is only accessible by a clearing in the fence to the east by the bridge. While asking for directions to the park, I learned that at least 4-5 community members I asked were not aware of the park's existence.

Ownership:

Trails: N/A

Summary: Immigrant park, like the other sites in this mid-section of the Spicket consists mostly of riparian vegetation, bordered by a more traditional park area. There are fences on both sides. The morning of our bird survey, sounds of domestic violence from a nearby residence were followed by a police lights.

Transformation: The multi-cultural theme of this park could be enhanced by emphasizing the importance of biodiversity for a healthy ecosystem in order to maintain ecological stability.

Immigrant Park 2004 ERA Score:

Site:	Immigrant Park	Immigrant Park	Averages
<i>Transects:</i>			
Plants	20	1	1
Birds	5	0	0
Soil		1	0.33
<i>Absence/Presence:</i>			
Tree >20 cm DBH (forest habitat)	No	1	1.00
Tree >20 cm DBH (non- forest habitat)	No	-1	-0.29
Standing Water	No	0	-0.14
Moving Water	Yes	1	1
Seasonal Water	No	0	0
Invasive Exotic	Yes	-1	-1
Wildlife Enhancements	No	0	0
Tame Wildlife	No	0	0
Community factors		0	0.86
Refuse	Extensive litter	-1	-1.57
<i>Map Analysis:</i>			
Impervious Surface	14%	0	1.14
Connectivity		1	0
Area	2.33	0	-0.43
Total:		2	1.71
Notes:			

Site: Brook Street, Score: 0

	General Survey	Bird Survey
Time:	7:00-10:00	7:00-8:00
Date:	August 21, 2004	August 25, 2004
Volunteers:	Leslie	Jashire, Zach, Tsang, Rebecca
Weather:	Rainy, cool	Cool, 70s, note doghouse

Access:

Ownership:

Trails:

Summary: This area is characterized by very steep slopes leading to a pretty large and fast reach of the Spicket. Vegetation is sparse yet diverse (see unique plant pictured below) amidst various dumping piles.

Transformation: Major concerns over chemical debris remain (the potentially dangerous white film mentioned in the “laundry report” was also found in soil cores for this present study). These are a major obstacle to site accessibility.



Brook Street 2004 ERA Score:

Site:	Brook Street	Brook Street	Averages
<i>Transects:</i>			
Plants	19	0	1
Birds	5	0	0
Soil		1	0.33
<i>Absence/Presence:</i>			
Tree >20 cm DBH (forest habitat)	Yes	1	1.00
Tree >20 cm DBH (non- forest habitat)	N/A	0	-0.29
Standing Water	No	0	-0.14
Moving Water	Yes	1	1
Seasonal Water	No	0	0
Invasive Exotic	Yes	-1	-1
Wildlife Enhancements	No	0	0
Tame Wildlife	No	0	0
Community factors			0.86
Refuse	Large, leaky items (cars, refrigerators)	-2	-1.57
<i>Map Analysis:</i>			
Impervious Surface	No	2	1.14
Connectivity		-1	0
Area	.944	-1	-0.43
Total:		0	1.71
Notes:			

Site: Misserville Park, Score: 2

	General Survey	Bird Survey
Time:	11:30-14:00	07:00-08:00
Date:	August 25, 2004	August 30, 2004
Volunteers:	Jashire, Zach, Tsang	Rebecca, Jashire, Zach, Tsang
Weather:	Cool, humid, 70s	Sunny, clear

Access: We surveyed the riparian area along the Spicket on the opposite side of the park. This site is accessible via the hospital.

Trails: Trails were not clear, but it was fairly easy to walk along the stream.

Summary: Riparian growth along the eastern bank of this section of the Spicket, although comprised of many invasive species, was more expansive than at several sites upstream.

Transformation: This site could be a welcome respite to visitors of both the hospital and Misserville park if access is improved.



Misserville Park 2004 ERA Score:

Site:	Misserville Park	Misserville Park	Averages
<i>Transects:</i>			
Plants	53	2	1
Birds	3	-1	0
Soil		1	0.33
<i>Absence/Presence:</i>			
Tree >20 cm DBH (forest habitat)	Yes	1	1.00
Tree >20 cm DBH (non- forest habitat)	N/A	0	-0.29
Standing Water	No	0	-0.14
Moving Water	Yes	1	1
Seasonal Water	No	0	0
Invasive Exotic	Yes	-1	-1
Wildlife Enhancements	No	0	0
Tame Wildlife	No	0	0
Community factors		1	0.86
Refuse	Large, leaky items (cars, refrigerators)	-2	-1.57
<i>Map Analysis:</i>			
Impervious Surface	No	2	1.14
Connectivity		-1	0
Area	.820	-1	-0.43
Total:		2	1.71
Notes:			

Site: Ferrous, Score: -1

	General Survey	Bird Survey
Time:	9:30-12:30	08:00-09:00
Date:	August 27, 2004	August 30, 2004
Volunteers:	Rebecca, Yashire, Tsang, Zach	Rebecca, Yashire, Tsang, Zach
Weather:	Hot, sunny, 90	Sunny, clear

Access: We entered this site via the gate to the (?) sewer overflow station.

Ownership:

Trails: It is easy to get to this site via Canal St.

Summary: This area where the Spicket enters the Merrimac River was the largest site surveyed and provided much forest, meadow, and riparian habitat to explore. Though bird diversity was moderate at this site, our species inventory did include some kingfishers. Also noteworthy was the beautiful view-scape (see below). A major hindrance at this site is the disjunct waterway.

Transformation: Volunteers were especially concerned about litter at this site, where debris from all sites upstream can accumulate.



Ferrous 2004 ERA Score:

Site:	Ferrous	Ferrous	Averages
<i>Transects:</i>			
Plants	33	1	1
Birds	8	0	0
Soil		0	0.33
<i>Absence/Presence:</i>			
Tree >20 cm DBH (forest habitat)	No	1	1.00
Tree >20 cm DBH (non-forest habitat)	Yes	-1	-0.29
Standing Water	No	0	-0.14
Moving Water	Yes	-1	1
Seasonal Water	No	0	0
Invasive Exotic	Yes	-1	-1
Wildlife Enhancements	No	0	0
Tame Wildlife	No	0	0
Community factors		2	0.86
Refuse	Large leaky items (cars, refrigerators)	-2	-1.57
<i>Map Analysis:</i>			
Impervious Surface	6%	0	1.14
Connectivity		0	0
Area	4.39	0	-0.43
Total:		-1	1.71
Notes:			