

Presenter	Josh Noble Wallace & Pancher, Inc.
Type	oral presentation
Category	Benefits of Stream Restoration
Title	<i>Natural Streams: Biological Effects of Natural Stream Channel Design Projects.</i>
Abstract	<p>Natural Stream Channel Design has been effectively used for a wide range of mitigation and restoration projects to satisfy Federal and state permit conditions for development projects. Often times the goal of the mitigation project is to meet some physical parameter, such as linear feet of stream replacement, streambank or bed stabilization, or a required acreage of riparian habitat buffers. The environmental permits typically require a monitoring period of a number of years to make sure the stream project functions in accordance to the approved design. However, little data are available to show how these stream projects affect the biological communities within a natural ecosystem.</p> <p>This presentation focuses on the impact to the biological communities of several Western Pennsylvania streams where Natural Stream Channel Design techniques were used to satisfy stream mitigation requirements. The streams range in size, type and order within the watersheds and had varying degrees of pre-construction biological diversity.</p>