

Habitat Sense



❖ Key Terms

- ❑ Habitat Type:
- ❑ Pool, Riffle, Glide
- ❑ Riffle
- ❑ Glide
- ❑ Substrate
- ❑ Interstitial space
- ❑ Streambank erosion
- ❑ Embeddedness
- ❑ Woody Debris
- ❑ Fish Cover

Stream Habitat

A place where fish live,
provides food, water
shelter, and space.



To describe streams,
divide into slow and
fast water. Into pools,
riffles, and glides.

Pool



Deeper, slow areas with water held in at the lower end by the tail pool crest, maintains water depth.

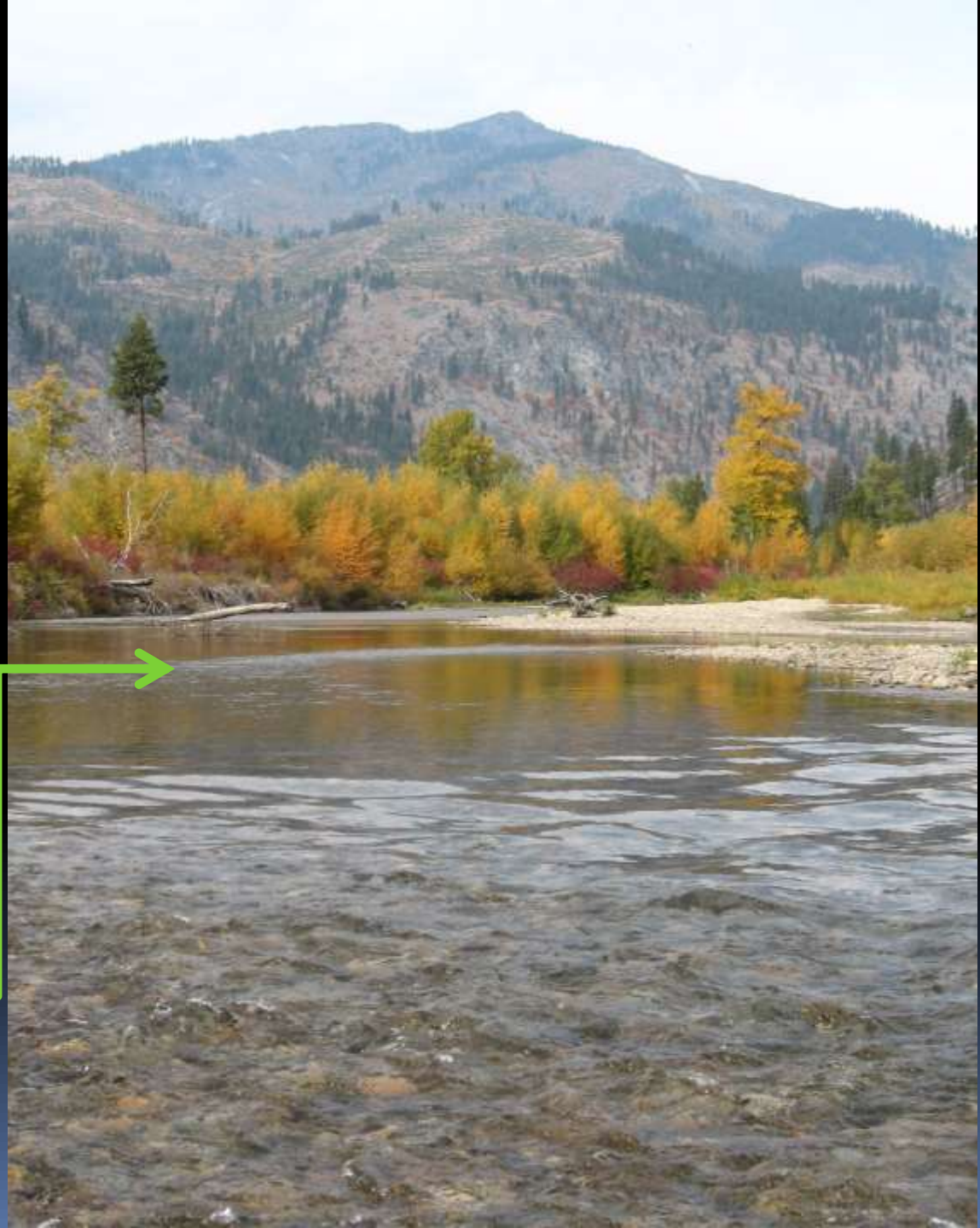
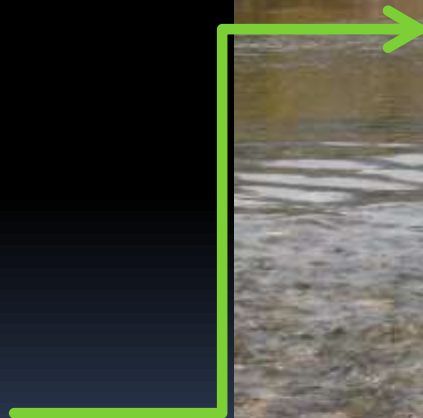
Riffle



Faster water with surface broken by water flowing over substrate.

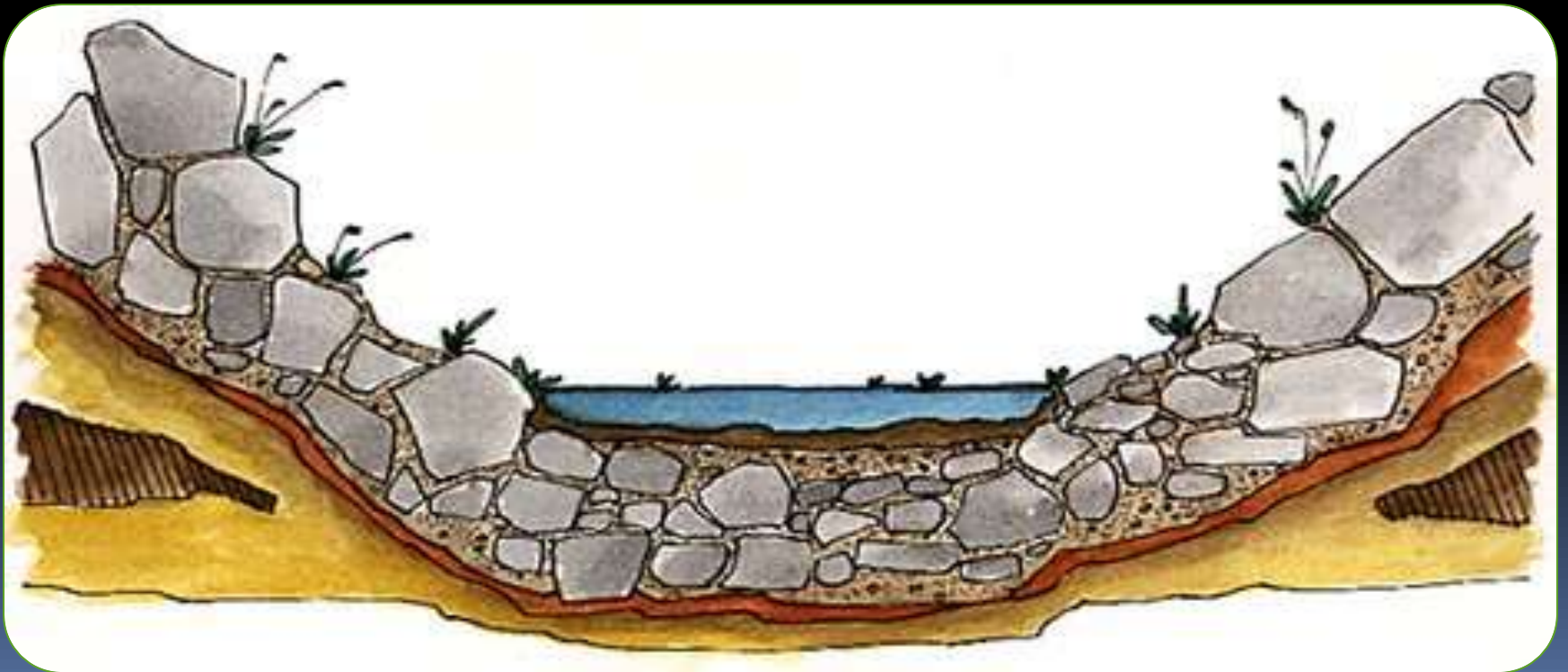
Slower water,
relatively
shallow, no
surface
turbulence

Glide



Substrate

The sand, silt, clay, gravel, cobble, boulders, and bedrock that form the stream bed



Interstitial Space

Spaces or openings in substrate.

What organisms might use them?



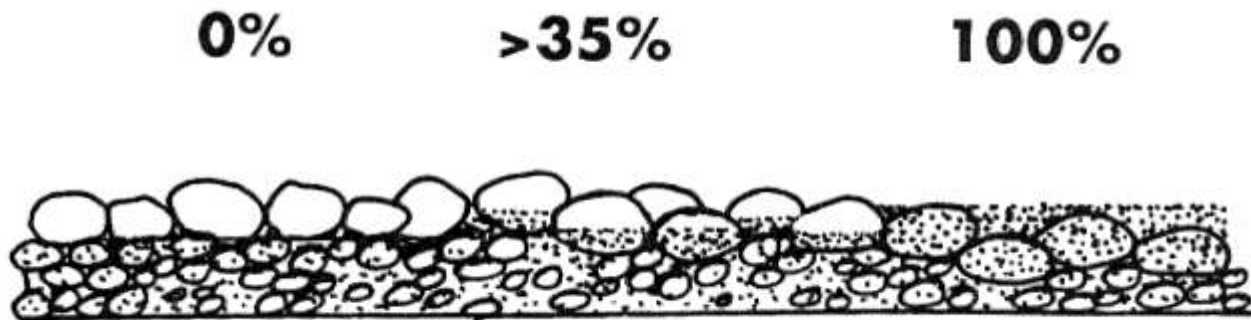
Streambank Erosion

The wearing away of the streambank soils and substrate by high flows, or land use practices.



Embeddedness

The degree that gravel, cobbles, or boulders are surrounded by sand and silt.



Woody Material

Wood material in
the stream
channel.

What does it do
for the stream
channel? for fish?



Fish Cover

Provides shelter for fish from predators and current.

Depth, substrate, turbulence, wood, vegetation.



How can we measure stream habitat to see what it provides for fish and to monitor change?



Habitat complexity is important to provide stream habitat to many fish species and life stages.