

NATURALNESS PRACTICE IMAGE GUIDE

POOR NATURALNESS EXAMPLES



PHYSICAL

4

HYDROLOGICAL

2

CHEMICAL

1

BIOLOGICAL

1

The beck is heavily straightened but no embankments are visible. Tree cover is high and the riparian zone is not degraded. The hydrology of the channel will be slightly impacted by the straightening. The water is peat-stained (note the 'see-through black tea' colour), so although dark still scores highly natural. No invasive species are visible.



PHYSICAL

5

HYDROLOGICAL

3

CHEMICAL

1

BIOLOGICAL

1

The upland stream is heavily straightened with a large concrete channel. This acts as an intensive water diversion channel that will moderately impact hydrology. Water is clear (but slightly peat-stained). No invasive species are visible.



PHYSICAL	5
HYDROLOGICAL	4
CHEMICAL	1
BIOLOGICAL	1

The beck is straightened with abstraction diversion channels (foreground) and a small weir (background). The hydrology of the channel will be significantly impacted by abstraction and the impoundment structures present. The water looks clear and the white foam does not count towards chemical scoring- this is naturally occurring from the turbulence of artificial structures. No invasive species are visible.



PHYSICAL	4
HYDROLOGICAL	2
CHEMICAL	5
BIOLOGICAL	1

A heavily straightened mill stream- but raised water levels make it difficult to see the bank sides. The tree cover is moderate on the far bank. The hydrology of the channel will be slightly impacted by the straightening. The water displays major sedimentation, reducing visibility to 1-2cm. This will make it difficult to check for filamentous algae/sewage fungus (so you may lower your confidence). No invasive species are visible.



PHYSICAL	4
HYDROLOGICAL	2
CHEMICAL	4
BIOLOGICAL	4

The river is heavily modified to be straighter and wider. This will slightly impact hydrology (but the impact is less compared to that of an impoundment/abstraction point). Severe presence of filamentous algae visible both on the channel bed and floating as mats along the surface. Himalayan balsam present on both banks with a high percentage of ground cover (up to 60%).



PHYSICAL	5
HYDROLOGICAL	2
CHEMICAL	3
BIOLOGICAL	4

The stream is heavily straightened and likely a man-made drainage ditch. The hydrology of the channel will be slightly impacted by the straightening. The water looks discoloured and murky suggesting sedimentation. Rhododendron is present across both banks and with a high percentage of ground cover (up to 60%).