APPENDIX 4 - DETERMINING CONSTRUCTION SITE SEDIMENT TRANSPORT POTENTIAL

The following rating system allows objective evaluation of a particular development site's potential to discharge sediment.

1. Using the rating system below, determine the total points for each development site. The definitions and soil categorization information to be used in the rating system are listed in items #2 and #3.

CONSTRUCTION SITE SEDIMENT TRANSPORT POTENTIAL

	Points
A. Existing slope of site (average, weighted by areal extent):	
2% or less	0
>2-5%	5
>5-10%	15
>10-15%	30
>15%	50
B. Site Area to be cleared and/or graded:	
<5,000 sq. ft.	0
5,000 sq. ft. – 2 acre	30
>2 acres	50
C. Quantity of cut and/or fill on site:	
<500 cubic yards	0
500 – 5,000 cubic yards	5
>5,000 – 10,000 cubic yards	10
>10,000 – 20,000 cubic yards	25
>20,000 cubic yards	40
D. Runoff potential of predominant soils (Soil Conservation Service):	
Hydrologic soil group A	0
Hydrologic soil group B	10
Hydrologic soil group C	20
Hydrologic soil group D	40
E. Erosion Potential of predominant soils (Unified Classification System):	
GW, GP, SW, SP soils	0
Dual classifications (GW-GM, GP-GM, GW-GC, GP-GC, SW-SM, SW-SC, SP-SM, SP-SC)	10
GM, GC, SM, SC soils	20
ML, CL, MH, CH soils	40
F. Depth of cut or height of fill >10 feet	25
G. Clearing and grading will occur in the wet season (October 1 – May 1)	50
TOTAL	_____

2. Definitions Used in the Rating System

   A. Hydraulic nearness – runoff from the site discharges to the sensitive feature without significant natural attenuation of flows that allows for suspended solids removal. The conditions that render a site hydraulically near to a sensitive feature include, but are not limited to, the following:

      i. the site is 200 feet or less uphill from the sensitive feature or its buffer; or
      ii. runoff from the site is tightlined to the sensitive feature or flows to the sensitive feature through a channel or ditch; or
      iii. one of the following does not occur before runoff from the site enters the sensitive feature: sheet flow through a vegetated area with dense ground cover; flow through a wetland not included as a sensitive feature; or a significant shallow or adverse slope, not in a conveyance channel, between the site and the sensitive feature.

   B. Sediment/erosion sensitive feature – areas subject to significant degradation due to the effect of construction runoff or areas requiring special protection to prevent erosion. These areas include, but are not limited to, the following:

      i. Salmonid bearing fresh water streams and their tributaries or freshwater streams that would be Salmonid bearing if not for anthropogenic barriers;
      ii. Lakes;
      iii. Category I, II, and III wetlands;
      iv. Marine near-shore habitat;
      v. Sites containing contaminated soils where erosion could cause dispersal of contaminants; and
      vi. Steep slopes (25% or greater) associated with one of the above features.

3. Soil Categorization for Use in Rating System

   If soil testing has been performed on site, the results should be used to determine the predominant soil type on the site. Otherwise, soil information should be obtained from the county soil survey for the classification and runoff potential of the site's predominant soils.

   When using the Soil Survey, the dominant soil type may be in question, particularly when the site falls on a boundary between two soil types or when one of two soil types may be present on a site. In this case, the soil type resulting in the most points on the rating system will be assumed unless site soil tests indicate that another soil type dominates the site.

4. Use the point score from Step #1 to determine whether the development site has a high potential for sediment transport.

Total Score	Erosion Potential
<80	Low
≥80	High