

A Handbook for Stream Enhancement and Stewardship. 2nd ed. By The Izaak Walton League of America. 2006. A joint publication of McDonald and Woodward Publishing Company, Blacksburg, VA, and the Izaak Walton League of America, Gaithersburg, MD. 178 p. US\$34.95. paper ISBN 0-939923-28.

This second edition of *A Handbook for Stream Enhancement and Stewardship* was written by Leah Miller, Gwyn Rowland, and Casey Williams, and Suzanne Zanelli assisted with various parts. Advice on portions of the text was provided by at least 17 reviewers. The handbook is a thorough resource guide to help “citizens, communities, organizations, companies, and governments understand, recognize, and take an active role in planning for environmentally sound cost-effective stream enhancement.”

Although not meant to be a technical manual, technical information is incorporated in the text to provide a foundation of knowledge used to investigate stream problems. The handbook provides ideas and information the reader can use in any and all aspects of stream management.

The first chapter gives an overview of stream systems, setting the groundwork for the rest of the text. The first step in planning a stream enhancement project begins with a watershed assessment. Establishing a technical team, site inventory, and extensive research are all a part of the initial assessment. One of the best-written chapters is the one about understanding stream bank enhancement on range and pasturelands. A brief history of range management is given.

The authors stress the concept, “Healthy streams are critical to providing communities with the economic, ecological, and social benefits that come from clean water.” This can only be accomplished by working together.

A Handbook for Stream Enhancement and Stewardship is just what the title says—it is a handbook. There is a complete glossary of terms, a section on how to read a topographic map, a list of steps involved in organizing technical teams, a guide to establishing a mission and goals.

Each chapter will “provide citizens with a crash course in the science behind stream systems, the techniques used to assess a watershed and inventory, the health of a stream and the basic principles and planning of stream enhancement.”

This is a copublication of McDonald and Woodward Publishing Company and the Izaak Walton League of America. As a reviewer I felt the text had too many authors. Some were precise and clear, some were just too wordy and rambled. Figures, graphs, and tables are well designed, and the overall composition of the handbook is excellent.

Jan Wiedemann, College Station, TX, Texas Section Society for Range Management. ♦

