

4.6.5 Incline Creek

The assessed portion of Incline Creek consists of two major reaches spanning the lowest 5.7 km of the watershed: an upper weathered granite valley and a lower riparian-buffered urban channel (Figure 4-41).

The assessment of the upper, weathered granite valley began at the confluence of the two major forks and ended 2.7 km downstream where the stream entered a 0.6 km-long culvert passing beneath the Diamond Peak ski area. The channel is characterized by a steep gradient, boulder step pools, and cobble/boulder runs. The channel has narrow to non-existent floodplains. However, the floodplains are densely vegetated in alder and willow that tightly hold the low banks (less than 1 meter high) together (Figure 4-39). Colluvial boulders frequent the channel, and granite bedrock banks encroach on the channel occasionally. The granite bedrock typically has a well-weathered surface. Bank-erosion potential of this section is considered low. Only two streambank locations have been noted where the rock had weathered into soil and was able to directly contribute fine sediment to the stream (Hotspots 11 and 12, Table 4-11).



Figure 4-39. Typical channel along the upper reaches of Incline Creek. Dense alders and grass protect the low banks from eroding.