### FE 257 GIS LAB 4

#### **Proximity Tools**

# Buffering Streams Based on Land Uses, Analyzing Nesting Locations within Stream Buffers, and Examining Geology Classes within Stream Buffers

This lab will ask you to explore and apply a few tools in ArcMap. We will use clip, buffer and dissolve to demonstrate how these overlay and proximity tools can be used.

Open the Windows Explorer and navigate to the t:\classes\fe257\gislab4 location on the forestry network. Using the mouse, right click on this folder and choose Copy from the menu that appears. Use Explorer to navigate to your workspace\fe257 folder. For most of you this will be located on the n:\drive and the will have the same name as your user name- for me it is \nicolatk\fe257. Right click on your workspace folder and choose Paste from the menu that appears. This should copy the gislab4 folder and all files located under the folder to your fe257 workspace.

Open a new blank map in an ArcGIS Pro session.

#### Мар

Let's save our map document immediately as "Lab4.aprx" in your workspace\gislab4 folder.

Add each of the three shapefiles that should be in your gislab4 folder into a data frame by using the same method as Labs 1 and 3: connecting to the gislab4 folder and using the Add Data button.



Once you have the connection, you should be able to open the data layers. We want to open the Watersheds and Streams layers - don't worry about the other data files for now.



Rename the data frame view to "All Watersheds" by right clicking > Properties > General and typing "All Watersheds" in the Name box. You can also rename layers by single clicking on them in the Contents window. Rename the streams layer to "Streams" and the watersheds layer to "Watersheds." You may also want to change the appearance of these layers by right clicking on them in the Contents > Symbology. Your map should look similar to the graphic below.



Let's create a new shapefile of only those streams that are located in the Middle Siletz Watershed through an attribute selection process. First, click on the Watersheds layer to highlight it in the Contents window. Then go to the Map toolbar and click Select By Attributes.

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Set the Input Rows to Watersheds and the selection type to New selection. Build a query expression that reads "Where NAME is equal to MIDDLE SILETZ RIVER." Click Run.

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Watersheds •	
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Where NAME • is ec • IZ RIVER •	×
+ Add Clause	
Invert Where Clause	

You can close the Select By Attributes box after clicking Run. This process should select the Middle Siletz Watershed boundary, meaning that the entire watershed area is selected.



#### **Selection by Location**

In the last lab exercise, we used a clip operation to create a new layer. Select By Location is another way of using a shape to select features within another shape. This menu choice is available under the Map menu- go ahead and activate this option with the Middle Siletz Watershed still selected.

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In the Select Layer By Location box, the Input Features are Streams, the Relationship is Intersect, the Selecting Features are Watersheds, and the Selection Type is New Selection. Leave all other boxes blank.

Geoprocessing	ųΧ
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Invert spatial relationship	

You can close the dialog box after you click Run. This operation should select all streams in the Middle Siletz Watershed.



Let's convert the selected streams into a shapefile we can work on. With the Middle Siletz streams still selected, right click on the Streams layer in the Contents window, choose Data from the pop-up menu, and then select Export Features.

The Feature Class to Feature Class dialogue box will open. Input Features will be Streams. Direct the output to your gislab4 folder and name the Output Feature Class "midsilstrms.shp." Double check that you are exporting to your gislab4 folder, since the same file now exists in your gislab3 folder after completing Lab 3. Keep all other defaults and click Run.

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Streams	- 🦰 🦯 -
Output Location	
gislab4	
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midsilstrms.shp	
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LPOLY_	FNODE
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LENGTH	Add New Source 🗸
STRM3_	
	Run 🌔

This will add the new Middle Siletz streams layer to your data frame. You may not be able to see the new streams due to the bright blue selection color taking precedence over other display colors. You can fix this by choosing Clear from the Selection menu in the Map toolbar. Turn off the Streams layer to view only midsilstrms.shp and make sure it worked.



Create a new data frame for midsilstrms by choosing Insert > New Map. Rename the new data frame Middle Siletz.

Next copy the new layer (midsilstrms) from the All Watersheds data frame by right clicking on it and choosing Copy, and then right clicking on the Middle Siletz data frame in the Contents and choosing Paste. You can then remove the layer from the All Watersheds data frame by right clicking on the layer and choosing Remove. Rename the midsilstrms layer to Middle Siletz Streams.

You may want to change the display of the Middle Siletz Streams layer by right clicking on the layer > Symbology.



#### Save your map project!

#### Buffer

Buffering is a very important proximity tool for many GIS packages, particularly in forestry as we often establish zones or management areas by measuring a set distance away from a stream or land cover type. To demonstrate the use of buffering tools within ArcGIS, we're going to buffer streams based on stream order information. We will create a buffer around the Middle Siletz Streams shapefile you just created. We'll buffer first order streams (smaller tributaries) by 100 feet and second and third order streams (larger waterways) by 200 feet. You will need to create a buffer field in the Middle Siletz Streams attribute table then populate the buffer field by using the Field Calculator. The Field Calculator is a very versatile tool that allows you to perform mathematical calculations.

Begin by opening the attribute table for the Middle Siletz Streams. Create a new field by clicking Add button at the top of the attribute table. An input row should appear. In the Field Name box, enter buffer. Data Type is Short. Set the Precision to 4 since we will not be entering many digits into this field. Click Save in the Fields toolbar at the top of the screen and the rest of the row will auto populate.

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Cu	urrent Layer	Middle S	iletz Streams (N	liddle Sile ▼									
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	1		LRGBLDR1	LRGBLDR1	Float			Numeric		0	0		
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The buffer field should appear at the end of the Middle Siletz Streams attribute table.

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С	2	. 1756	24	4595	12	ST	0.7	3.6	73	3.5	25	ł.3	3.1	10	37	91	76	91	C	94		3	0	l
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	■ 0 of 49 se	lected							Filt	ers:			T	7  (		-			1		+	100%	- 12	2

Select a subset of the records in this layer that include all stream segments classified as a first order stream. Click on the Middle Siletz Streams layer in the Contents window to highlight it.

1. Choose Select by Attributes in the Map toolbar.

2. The Select Layer By Attribute dialogue box will open. Make Middle Siletz Streams the Input Rows and New Selection the Selection Type. There is a field in this table named ORDER\_. When you build your query expression, it should be: Where ORDER\_ is equal to 1. Click Run.

Geoprocessing	<b>→</b> Ҭ ×
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Input Rows	
Middle Siletz Streams	- 🧰
Selection type	
New selection	•
Expression	
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SC SC	
Where ORDER_ • is ec • 1	- ×
+ Add Clause	
Invert Where Clause	

This operation should result in all the first order streams in Middle Siletz Streams being selected. All the first order streams should be tributaries; this is how you know your selection was successful and makes sense.



Now, any calculations that we do on other fields should only occur in the selected first order streams. Add a buffer value for the first order streams by right clicking on the "buffer" field heading we just created and choosing Calculate Field.



The Field Calculator should open. Type 100 into the "buffer = " box at the bottom, leave everything else as default, and click Run. Take a look at your table to see if anything's changed – be careful not to click on any of the table cells or this will invalidate your selection!

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Middle Siletz	Streams		
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TNODE_		.numerator()	
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Insert Values	*	* / + -	=
buffer =			
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Add buffer values for the other streams by first clearing your order 1 selection using "Clear" from the Selection menu in the Map toolbar.



Next, build two new query expressions for order 2 and 3 streams using the Select by Attributes tool. Since we are giving both orders the same buffer value (200'), we can select them using an OR clause. Your first expression should read: "Where ORDER\_ is equal to 2." Then click "Add Clause" and create a second expression reading "OR ORDER\_ is equal to 3." Click Run. All order 2 and 3 streams should be selected. These streams should be larger, downstream waterways; this is how you know your selection was successful and makes sense. You can also check by noting that there are 25 first order streams selected and 24 second and third order streams selected, adding up to the total number of streams: 49.



Add a buffer value for the second and third order streams by right clicking on the top of the buffer field and choosing Calculate Field from the options. The Field Calculator should open. Type 200 into the "buffer = " box at the bottom, leave everything else as default, and click Run. Take a look at your table to see if anything's changed – again, be careful not to click on any of the table cells!

This process should have created a buffer field and values for us to run our buffering operation. Let's look briefly at the results in the Middle Siletz Streams attribute table.

ORDER_	buffer
1	100
1	100
3	200
3	200
3	200
1	100
1	100
1	100
2	200
2	200
2	200
2	200
1	100
2	200
1	100
3	200
3	200
3	200
2	200
1	100

After looking at the results and making sure we have no sub-selected stream records, we're ready to create stream buffers. You can clear the sub-selections by clicking Clear in the Selection menu under the Map toolbar.

#### **Creating Stream Buffers**

Our first task will be to make sure that the map coordinate units are set to feet. Right click to access Properties > General of the Middle Siletz data frame and make sure both the map and display units are set to feet.

Map Properties: Mid	dle Siletz	X
General Extent Clip Layers Metadata Coordinate Systems Transformation Illumination Labels Color Management	Name Map units Display units Reference scale Rotation Background color	Middle Siletz   Feet   Feet <none>   0.00</none>
	Allow assignment	t of unique numeric IDs for sharing web layers           OK         Cancel

To access the buffering tool, search for it in the Geoprocessing dialogue box and click on it.

Geoprocessing	<b>→</b> Ĥ	×
E buffer	× •	$\oplus$
Buffer (Analysis Tools) Creates buffer polygons around input featu a specified distance.	ires to	1
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This should open the Buffer dialog box. Fill out the options using the graphic below as a guide. It is critical to set the Dissolve Type to "Dissolve all output features into a single feature." Direct the Output Feature Class "midsilbuffer.shp" to your gislab4 folder. Click Run.

Geoproces	sing	<b>-</b> ↓ ×
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Middle Sile	etz Streams 🔹 🖬	i / •
Output Feat	ture Class	
midsilbuffe	er.shp	
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Method		
Planar		•
Dissolve Typ	pe	
Dissolve al	l output features into a single fe	ature 🔻

Save your map project!

Once you've saved your map project, rename the new layer to Middle Siletz Buffer and examine the buffer results to see if they match our expectations. Change the buffer layer symbology to see it more clearly. First order streams should have a smaller-width buffer than second and third order streams with a larger-width buffer. The graphic below is just an excerpt, but the entire Middle Siletz Buffer layer should look like this. Every stream should contain a buffer; if some don't (like the smaller ones), you will need to redo the process. Since you chose the "Dissolve all output features into a single feature" option, Middle Siletz Buffer is now a single polygon layer with one attribute in its table. You may have noticed that there is no area field in the buffer attribute table.





#### How to Add or Update Area Measurements for Polygon Layers

## The updating of measurements is something you should do to a polygon or line layer every time you change the dimension (size) of the layer!

Add an area field to the Middle Siletz Buffer layer. Open the Middle Siletz Buffer attribute table and click "Add" in the Field menu at the top of the table. Type Area into Field Name and leave the rest as default. Click Save in the Fields toolbar at the top of your screen and the rest of the cells will auto populate.

	Middle Sile	tz Buffer 🛛 📲	Fields: Mid	dle Sile	(Middle Sil	etz) 🗙						
C	urrent Layer	Middle S	iletz Buffer (M	liddle S	iletz 🔻							
	Visible	Read Only	Field Name	Alias	Data Type	Allow NULL	Highlight	Number Format	Default	Precision	Scale	Length
	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	FID	FID	Object ID			Numeric		0	0	
	$\checkmark$		Shape	Shape	Geometry					0	0	
	<ul> <li>Image: A start of the start of</li></ul>		ld	ld	Long			Numeric		6	0	
	$\checkmark$		Area	Area	Long			Numeric		10	0	

Now use the Calculate Geometry tool to create an area measurement for the entire buffer polygon. Go back to the Middle Siletz Buffer table and right click on the Area field heading to select Calculate Geometry. In the Calculate Geometry Attributes window that appears, Input Features are Middle Siletz Buffer, Target Field and Property are both Area, and Area Unit is Square feet (United States). Leave Coordinate System blank. Click Run.

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€ Calculate Geometry Attributes											
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Middle Siletz Buffer	•										
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The Area field in the Middle Siletz Buffer attribute table should now be populated with the area in square feet.

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#### **Dissolving a Layer**

We also have a shapefile that contains surficial geology for our watershed areas. We're going to open this file and clip it to the extent of the Middle Siletz Watershed so that we can do some processing.

Return to your All Watersheds data frame. Clear any selections you might have by using the Clear option under the Selection Menu. Make the Middle Siletz Watershed the active polygon by using the Select tool and clicking on the Middle Siletz Watershed to select it. Make sure not to click on the Streams layer in the process.

Create a new shapefile of this watershed area by right clicking on the Watersheds layer > Data > Export Features. Write the output to your gislab4 workspace folder and name it midsilshed.shp. Add the new layer to your data frame and name it Middle Siletz Watershed.

Now, open the geology shapefile into the All Watersheds data frame by using the Add Data button.



Let's trim the geology file by searching for the Clip tool in the Geoprocessing window.

In the Clip dialog box, select geology as the Input Features to clip, Watersheds as the Clip Features layer, and direct the Output Feature Class to your gislab4 folder with the name midsilgeology.shp. Click Run.

Geoprocessir	ng	<del>~</del> ₽ ×
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Clip Features Watersheds		• 📔 🦯 •
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The new layer should appear in your All Watersheds layer (turn off "geology" to make sure). If it looks OK, use the Contents to copy-paste it to the Middle Siletz data frame. Rename the new layer Middle Siletz Geology and remove its replicate from the All Watersheds data frame. Activate the Middle Siletz data frame and right click on Middle Siletz Geology > Zoom to Layer. You should see the full extent of your newly clipped geology layer. Reorder the three layers in the Middle Siletz data frame so that you can see the streams, overlaid onto the buffers, overlaid onto the geology, like the screenshot below.



You can examine the values of a field in a layer by changing its symbology. Practice this by right clicking on Middle Siletz Geology > Symbology.

Select Unique Values from the Primary Symbology drop down. Change Field 1 to GEOLOGY. Select a color scheme of your choice. Right click the grey "all other values" field and choose Remove. Unique colors now represent each type of geology present in the Middle Siletz Geology layer.



You can individually change the colors for each type of geology by right clicking on the symbols in the Symbology dialog box or contents window and selecting an alternative. Let's close the Symbology dialogue.

#### Dissolve

Notice that we have four geologic classes but some redundancy exists in the number of polygons- some of the geology classes contain multiple polygon boundaries that border each other. We will perform a dissolve operation on Middle Siletz Geology to reduce data redundancy.

Search for Dissolve in the Geoprocessing window and select it.

Geoprocessing	<b>→</b> ∏ ×
( dissolve	× • 🕀
Dissolve (Data Management Tools)	
Aggregates features based on specified attributes.	
4	

In the Dissolve dialog box, make Middle Siletz Geology the Input Features. Direct the Output Feature Class to your gislab4 workspace and save it as midsildissgeo.shp. The Dissolve Field is GEOLOGY. Check Create Multipart Features. Click Run.

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$\odot$	€ Dissolve							
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Your dissolved output should appear in the Contents window. Open its Symbology. Rename the new layer Middle Siletz Dissolved Geology and change its symbology so that the unique values of GEOLOGY are displayed, like we did with the previous geology file. Right click on the "all other values" field (displaying the grey box in the Symbology dialogue box) and select Remove. Rename your new layer Middle Siletz Dissolved Geology. You should now have something like this:

Contents • # ×	All Watersheds 🔣 Middle Siletz 🗙			Symbology - Middle Silet	tz Dissol 👻 🖣 🗙
Search         P           Image: Constraint of the search         Image: Constraint of the search           Image: Constraint of the search         Image: Constraint of the search				Primary symbology	=
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Middle Siletz		5		Field 1 GEOLOGY	• 🗙
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▲ ✓ Middle Siletz Dissolved Geology		The second second		Classes Scales	
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Middle Siletz Geology				· Alluvium	Alluvium
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	0 Polygon Alluvium 2283627520				
	1 Polygon Basalt 209799524861				
	2 Polygon Marine Sed 2883355364.5				
	3 Polygon Sedimentary 3706229504				
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	0 of 4 selected	Filters: 🛞 🧐	₩100% - + 100% - 2	Catalog Geoprocessing Symb	ology

Take a look at this new layer. You might toggle its visibility on and off to more closely examine the changes. You should notice that there are fewer polygons in this new layer than in the Middle Siletz Geology layer. This is because every polygon with the same geology type (Alluvium, Basalt, Marine Sediment, and Sedimentary) was dissolved into one feature; therefore, the new attribute table contains one row for each geology type.

Save your map document.

#### **Point Files**

We will now examine a fictitious point representation of nests within our study watershed. Create a new data frame and name it "Lower Siletz." Open the streams, watershed, and wombat shapefiles from your gislab4 folder into the new data frame. These should be located in your workspace\gislab4 folder.

We'll take a few moments to become familiar with these files before you start the lab.



## GIS Lab 4 Application: Buffering Streams Based on Land Uses, Analyzing Nesting Locations within Stream Buffers, and Examining Geology Classes within Stream Buffers.

We're going to examine the spatial distribution of nests for the Oregon Wombat. First, we'll create buffers around streams based on land use categories.

In the Lower Siletz data frame you just created, create a new shapefile that contains the Lower Siletz Watershed polygon.

- 1. Select the Lower Siletz watershed in the watersheds polygon layer.
- 2. Right click on the layer in the Contents.
- 3. Choose Data, then Export Features, and write the result as losilshed.shp to your workspace\gislab4 folder.
- 4. Rename the new layer "Lower Siletz Watershed."
- 5. Remove the "watersheds" layer from your Contents.

Let's create a shapefile that represents only those streams in the Lower Siletz Watershed.

- 1. In the Geoprocessing window, search for and select Clip.
- 2. Choose streams as the Input Features, Lower Siletz Watershed as the Cdlip Features, and write the result to your workspace\gislab4 folder as losilstrms.shp.
- 3. Click Run.
- 4. Name the new layer "Lower Siletz Streams."
- 5. Remove the "streams" layer from your Contents.

Change the symbology of your layers so you are able to differentiate them clearly and move "wombats" to the top of the Contents window.



Let's create a new attribute in the Lower Siletz Streams layer that we can use for buffering.

Open the Lower Siletz Streams attribute table. Add a field named buffer to this table by activating the Table menu and choosing Add Field. Assign buffer as the name, change type to Short Integer, and change the Precision and Length to 4. Save the new field using the Save button in the Fields toolbar.

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C	Current Layer Lower Siletz Streams (Low		ms (Lower Siletz) *	]																
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Use a combination of the Select By Attributes tool and the Field Calculator to enter the following buffer values:

LUSE1	(CATEGORY)	BUFFER
AG	(Agriculture)	200
LT	(Large Timber)	300
MT	(Mature Timber)	300
ST	(Second Growth)	300
TH	(Timber Harvest)	200
ΥT	(Young Timber)	200

An example of this two-step process for 300' buffers around certain timber land uses would involve:

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	С	3	1377	74	8160	282	ST	6.3	).4	14	2.8	16	0	2.8	3.3	29	71	0	0		93		2	300	
	4	4	2024	110	6060	70	VT	77	1.4	10	0	0	I C	17	) A	0	C E	0	0		22		2	î	i.
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When you are done entering the buffer widths for all land use categories, select all 71 records.

Close the table after you're done.

#### **Create Buffers**

Make sure all 71 records are selected. In the Geoprocessing window, select Buffer from the Favorites or search for it in the Find Tools bar.



Select Lower Siletz Streams as the layer to buffer and use the graphic below as a guide. Make sure you change the Distance to Field and select buffer; this bases the buffer operation off of values in the field you created. Make sure you change the Dissolve Type to Dissolve all output features into a single feature. Write the output to your workspace location with the name losilbuff.shp. Click Run to create the buffers.

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Rename the new layer Lower Siletz Buffer. Your map should look similar to the graphic below. You should notice a size difference between the 200' and 300' buffers. The Lower Siletz Buffer attribute table should contain one polygon since you dissolved all attributes. If it contains more than one polygon the Dissolve Type was incorrect.



Assignment 4A. This is a team assignment. Please find a teammate and answer the five questions that appear on the following pages, type your answers, and turn in at the beginning of your next lab meeting. Be sure to include your names, lab day and time (e.g. Tuesday 10 AM), assignment number, and course title with your answers (9 points).

1. What is the size in square feet of the buffer area contained in the Lower Siletz Buffer layer? Round and report your answer to the nearest whole unit (do not report decimals). If you examine the attribute table for the Lower Siletz Buffer, you'll notice that there is no area field. Follow the directions given earlier in Lab 1 and Lab 3 to create area and acre fields.

The wombat shapefile in your Lower Siletz Watershed data frame contains point locations for nests from the elusive Oregon Wombat. Create a new shapefile that includes only the Wombats in the Lower Siletz Watershed.

Rename the new layer to "Lower Siletz Wombats." Remove the original wombat layer by right clicking on it and choosing Remove from the pop-up menu. Take a look at the distribution of wombat nests scattered over the watershed.



2. How many wombat nests are there with a diameter of 3 feet or greater? (the NestDiam variable is expressed in feet)

3. The Nestsize variable is a character variable and lists relative sizes of each nest. For all nests with a diameter of 3 feet or greater, run a summary on the Nestsize variable and provide a table that lists the number of nests in each of the three size categories.

4. Perform a clip operation on the Lower Siletz Wombats layer to create a new shapefile that shows only the wombat nests that fall within the previously-created buffer areas. Write this file to your workspace\gislab4 folder and call it nestbuff.shp. Examine the attribute table from this layer. For all nests with a diameter of 3 feet or greater - what is the distribution of nest sizes (small, medium, and large) that fall within the buffer zones?

Let's examine geology information for the Lower Siletz Watershed and determine the area each geology class occupies within stream buffers we created. To do this, open the geology shapefile into your data frame. It should be located in your workspace\gislab4 folder.

Clip the geology layer to the Lower Siletz Watershed layer and save the output file as losilgeo.shp in your workspace\gislab4 folder.

Rename the "losilgeo" layer to "Lower Siletz Geology" and remove the geology layer from your table of contents. Examine the geology classes for the new Lower Siletz Geology layer by accessing its Symbology options. Choose Unique Values under the Primary Symbology drop down menu, change Field 1 to Geology, and select Apply.

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Do you notice anything unusual about the distribution of this variable?



Let's clean up some of the redundant line work in the layer. Perform a dissolve operation on the new "Lower Siletz Geology" layer. Search for dissolve in the Geoprocessing window.

Select Lower Siletz Geology as the Input Features, write the output to your workspace\gislab4 folder as losilgeodis.shp, and select GEOLOGY as the Dissolve Field. Click Run.

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Rename the new layer Lower Siletz Dissolved Geology. Set the Primary Symbology to Unique Values and Field 1 as Geology. Click the Add All Values button under the Classes tab if the geology types do not automatically show up in the Symbology window.



Clip the Lower Siletz Dissolved Geology layer to the Lower Siletz stream buffer layer. This should produce a buffer layer containing overlapping geology types. Below is a zoomed in graphic of what the layer should look like. Each color is a different geology type overlapping with the buffer layer.



5. What is the acreage of the Alluvium geologic class (after a dissolve) within the stream buffers? Round and report your answer to the nearest whole acre.

#### **REQUIRED WRITTEN EXERCISE**

Assignment 4B. Include this with assignment 4A and work with the same team. Please answer question 3.12 (Calculate RMSE) on page 69 of your text book. Show your work and report your response using three decimal places. 2 points.

Assignment 4C. Prepare a one or two page document that describes your final project. Please discuss the importance of your project and what you hope to find or demonstrate (one report per project team). Include reference to databases that you plan on using. Please include a cover page containing the paper title, class number (FE 257), date, author(s), and lab day and time (e.g. Tuesday 10 AM). Present your typed document (use double spacing please so comments can be inserted) at the beginning of the next lab meeting. 5 points.