Figure 2. Example of aerial photography and color-coded map of same area.

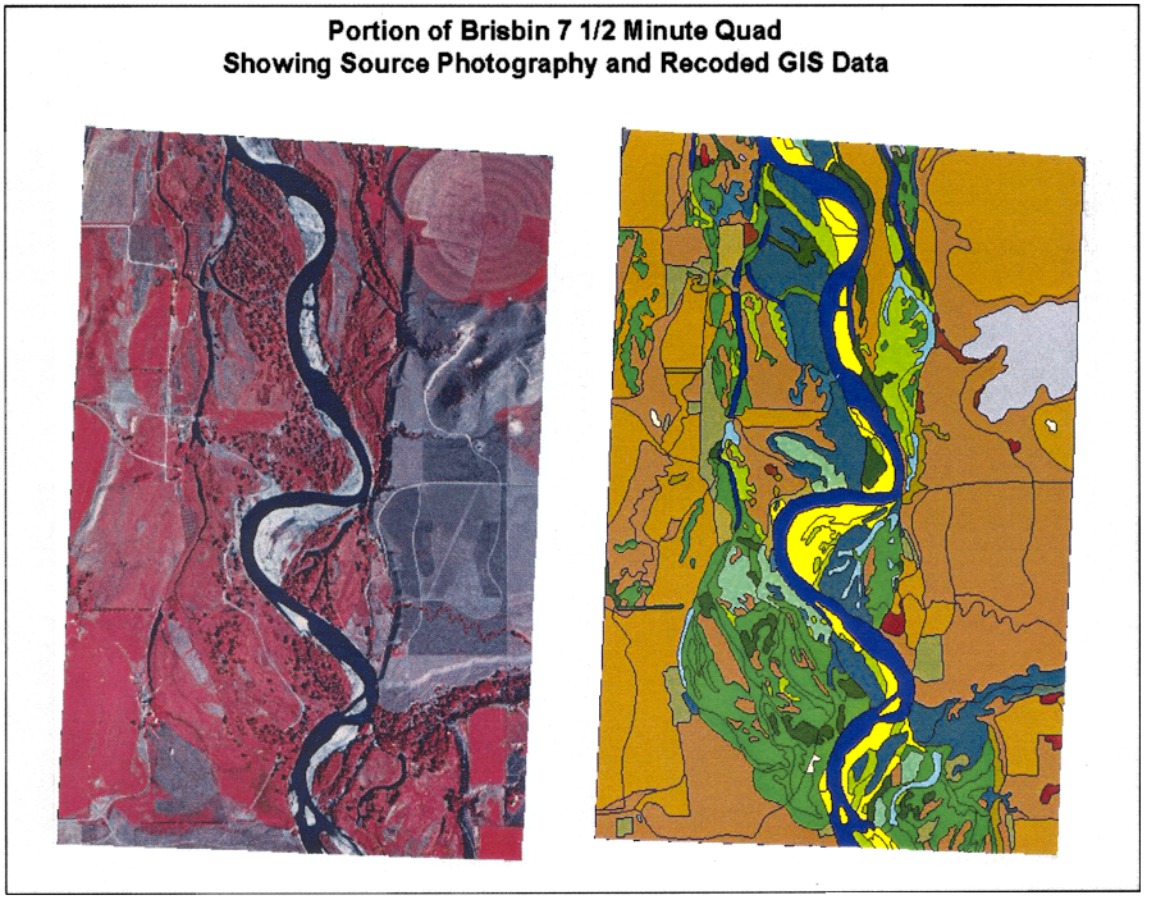

Photo Interpretation

Wetland, riparian and upland land use/land cover boundary delineation and classification was accomplished through stereoscopic interpretation of the aerial photography using established Service procedures and protocols found in "Photointerpretation Conventions for the National Wetlands Inventory" (USFWS 1995). Features large enough for a photo interpreter to delineate an entire boundary around were delineated as polygons so area measurements were as accurate as possible. Features too narrow to delineate as a polygon were delineated with a single dashed line or linear. A point is a feature so small that a single dot delineates it. Linear and point data are buffered during area calculations and included in the acreage figures in the text to make them as accurate as possible. Although linear and point data may seem minor in comparison to polygon data they are still a significant portion of the overall habitat in the Yellowstone River study area.