

Water Quality Field Data

Site/ Location: _____

Name _____

Collection Date: _____

Class/Period: _____ Group #: _____

Collection Time: _____ (circle): AM / PM

What are you testing? _____

Site Conditions

Surrounding Land Use - Consider both sides of stream
(check top 1-2 land uses; circle additional descriptions)

- Developed
 - high (< 40% vegetation)
 - low (> 60% vegetation)
 - wooded parkland
- Agriculture
 - maintained pasture
 - concentrated animals
 - nonirrigated cropland
- Forest
 - coniferous
 - mixed woodland
- Wetland
 - estuarine marsh
 - riparian
- Road
- Other (bare soil, sand, sparse vegetation,)
- Describe primary use and conditions: _____

- medium (~ 50% vegetation)
- city park
- rangeland/grassland
- irrigated cropland
- deciduous
- clearcut
- freshwater marsh

Weather conditions (clear; overcast; light rain, ...)

Rain within last 2 days (choose one)

- None
- Trace
- Light
- Moderate
- Heavy

Air Temp (in °C) _____

Water odor (choose one)

- Sewage
- Rotten eggs
- None
- Chlorine
- Decomposing vegetation
- Other: _____
- Fishy

Water Quality Tests

Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L) _____

pH (7.0 = neutral; <7 acidic; >7 basic) _____

Water Temperature (in °C) _____

Turbidity (circle one: NTU or cm) _____

Nitrate/nitrite (mg/L) _____

Total Phosphate (mg/L) _____

Fecal Coliform (colonies/100mL) _____

Stream Conditions

Water appearance

- Clear
- Turbid
- Greenish
- Other: _____
- Milky
- Dark Brown
- Oily sheen
- Foamy
- Orange
- Algae bloom

Water Turbulence

% still (pool) _____ %

% turbulent (riffle) _____ %

Stream Channel Bank – full width (choose one)

- <10'
- 10-25'
- 25-50'
- >50'

Stream Channel wetted width (choose one)

- <10'
- 10-25'
- 25-50'
- >50'

Average Depth of Stream – now (choose one)

- <6"
- 25-36"
- 7-12"
- 36-72"
- >72"
- 13-24"

Water Speed/Flow Rate _____ (_____ /sec)

Stream flow _____ (cfs)

Canopy Cover (choose one - describe riparian vegetation below)

- Open (< 60% cover)
- Closed (> 60% cover)

Bank Material (choose one)

- Clay
- Rocks
- Mixed (describe): _____
- Mud
- Stones
- Dirt

Bank Condition (choose one)

- Undercut
- Gabions
- Natural
- Eroding - slightly
- Eroding - moderate
- Eroding - severe
- Channelized (straight like a ditch)
- Riprap or other imported loose rocks
- Concrete – bags or poured walls

Stream inorganic substrate (river bottom)

rank 1 (most common) – 4 (least common)

- _____ Boulder (> 12")
- _____ Cobble/Rubble (3-12")
- _____ Gravel (.25-3")
- _____ Sand/Silt (<.25)

Compacted: **Yes** or **No**

Organic Substrate (river bottom)

- Muck mud
- Fibrous peat
- Logs, limbs, root wads
- If large woody debris, count pieces in 100' reach. If barriers, describe (e.g. culverts, waterfalls, dams, ...)

GPS: _____ N, _____ W; _____ elevation (ft)

Use the space below to record other observations (wildlife, plant types, signs of human disturbance, local land use, ...):
