

APPENDIX A-1:

Habitat Assessment and Physicochemical Characterization Field Data Sheets

Form 1: Physical Characterization/Water Quality Field Data Sheet

Form 2: Habitat Assessment Field Data Sheet - High Gradient Streams

Form 3: Habitat Assessment Field Data Sheet - Low Gradient Streams

PHYSICAL CHARACTERIZATION/WATER QUALITY FIELD DATA SHEET (BACK)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| WATERSHED FEATURES | Predominant Surrounding Landuse <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Field/Pasture <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Residential | Local Watershed NPS Pollution <input type="checkbox"/> No evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Some potential sources <input type="checkbox"/> Obvious sources Local Watershed Erosion <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy |
| RIPARIAN VEGETATION (18 meter buffer) | Indicate the dominant type and record the dominant species present <input type="checkbox"/> Trees <input type="checkbox"/> Shrubs <input type="checkbox"/> Grasses <input type="checkbox"/> Herbaceous dominant species present _____ | |
| INSTREAM FEATURES | Estimated Reach Length _____m Estimated Stream Width _____m Sampling Reach Area _____m ² Area in km ² (m ² x1000) _____km ² Estimated Stream Depth _____m Surface Velocity _____m/sec (at thalweg) | Canopy Cover <input type="checkbox"/> Partly open <input type="checkbox"/> Partly shaded <input type="checkbox"/> Shaded High Water Mark _____m Proportion of Reach Represented by Stream Morphology Types <input type="checkbox"/> Riffle _____% <input type="checkbox"/> Run _____% <input type="checkbox"/> Pool _____% Channelized <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Dam Present <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| LARGE WOODY DEBRIS | LWD _____m ² Density of LWD _____m ² /km ² (LWD/ reach area) | |
| AQUATIC VEGETATION | Indicate the dominant type and record the dominant species present <input type="checkbox"/> Rooted emergent <input type="checkbox"/> Rooted submergent <input type="checkbox"/> Rooted floating <input type="checkbox"/> Free floating <input type="checkbox"/> Floating Algae <input type="checkbox"/> Attached Algae dominant species present _____ Portion of the reach with aquatic vegetation _____% | |
| WATER QUALITY | Temperature _____° C Specific Conductance _____ Dissolved Oxygen _____ pH _____ Turbidity _____ WQ Instrument Used _____ | Water Odors <input type="checkbox"/> Normal/None <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage <input type="checkbox"/> Petroleum <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical <input type="checkbox"/> Fishy <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Water Surface Oils <input type="checkbox"/> Slick <input type="checkbox"/> Sheen <input type="checkbox"/> Globs <input type="checkbox"/> Flecks <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Turbidity (if not measured) <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Slightly turbid <input type="checkbox"/> Turbid <input type="checkbox"/> Opaque <input type="checkbox"/> Stained <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| SEDIMENT/SUBSTRATE | Odors <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage <input type="checkbox"/> Petroleum <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical <input type="checkbox"/> Anaerobic <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | Deposits <input type="checkbox"/> Sludge <input type="checkbox"/> Sawdust <input type="checkbox"/> Paper fiber <input type="checkbox"/> Sand <input type="checkbox"/> Relict shells <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Looking at stones which are not deeply embedded, are the undersides black in color? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

| INORGANIC SUBSTRATE COMPONENTS (should add up to 100%) | | | ORGANIC SUBSTRATE COMPONENTS (does not necessarily add up to 100%) | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Substrate Type | Diameter | % Composition in Sampling Reach | Substrate Type | Characteristic | % Composition in Sampling Area |
| Bedrock | | | Detritus | sticks, wood, coarse plant materials (CPOM) | |
| Boulder | > 256 mm (10") | | | | |
| Cobble | 64-256 mm (2.5"-10") | | Muck-Mud | black, very fine organic (FPOM) | |
| Gravel | 2-64 mm (0.1"-2.5") | | | | |
| Sand | 0.06-2mm (gritty) | | Marl | grey, shell fragments | |
| Silt | 0.004-0.06 mm | | | | |
| Clay | < 0.004 mm (slick) | | | | |

HABITAT ASSESSMENT FIELD DATA SHEET—HIGH GRADIENT STREAMS (FRONT)

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| STREAM NAME | | LOCATION | |
| STATION # _____ RIVERMILE _____ | | STREAM CLASS | |
| LAT _____ LONG _____ | | RIVER BASIN | |
| STORET # | | AGENCY | |
| INVESTIGATORS | | | |
| FORM COMPLETED BY | | DATE _____ TIME _____ AM PM | REASON FOR SURVEY |

| | Habitat Parameter | Condition Category | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| | | Optimal | Suboptimal | Marginal | Poor |
| Parameters to be evaluated in sampling reach | 1. Epifaunal Substrate/ Available Cover | Greater than 70% of substrate favorable for epifaunal colonization and fish cover; mix of snags, submerged logs, undercut banks, cobble or other stable habitat and at stage to allow full colonization potential (i.e., logs/snags that are <u>not</u> new fall and <u>not</u> transient). | 40-70% mix of stable habitat; well-suited for full colonization potential; adequate habitat for maintenance of populations; presence of additional substrate in the form of newfall, but not yet prepared for colonization (may rate at high end of scale). | 20-40% mix of stable habitat; habitat availability less than desirable; substrate frequently disturbed or removed. | Less than 20% stable habitat; lack of habitat is obvious; substrate unstable or lacking. |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| | 2. Embeddedness | Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are 0-25% surrounded by fine sediment. Layering of cobble provides diversity of niche space. | Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are 25-50% surrounded by fine sediment. | Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are 50-75% surrounded by fine sediment. | Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are more than 75% surrounded by fine sediment. |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| | 3. Velocity/Depth Regime | All four velocity/depth regimes present (slow-deep, slow-shallow, fast-deep, fast-shallow). (Slow is < 0.3 m/s, deep is > 0.5 m.) | Only 3 of the 4 regimes present (if fast-shallow is missing, score lower than if missing other regimes). | Only 2 of the 4 habitat regimes present (if fast-shallow or slow-shallow are missing, score low). | Dominated by 1 velocity/depth regime (usually slow-deep). |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| | 4. Sediment Deposition | Little or no enlargement of islands or point bars and less than 5% of the bottom affected by sediment deposition. | Some new increase in bar formation, mostly from gravel, sand or fine sediment; 5-30% of the bottom affected; slight deposition in pools. | Moderate deposition of new gravel, sand or fine sediment on old and new bars; 30-50% of the bottom affected; sediment deposits at obstructions, constrictions, and bends; moderate deposition of pools prevalent. | Heavy deposits of fine material, increased bar development; more than 50% of the bottom changing frequently; pools almost absent due to substantial sediment deposition. |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| | 5. Channel Flow Status | Water reaches base of both lower banks, and minimal amount of channel substrate is exposed. | Water fills >75% of the available channel; or <25% of channel substrate is exposed. | Water fills 25-75% of the available channel, and/or riffle substrates are mostly exposed. | Very little water in channel and mostly present as standing pools. |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |

HABITAT ASSESSMENT FIELD DATA SHEET—HIGH GRADIENT STREAMS (BACK)

| Habitat Parameter | Condition Category | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Optimal | | | | | Suboptimal | | | | | Marginal | | | | | Poor | | | | | |
| 6. Channel Alteration | Channelization or dredging absent or minimal; stream with normal pattern. | | | | | Some channelization present, usually in areas of bridge abutments; evidence of past channelization, i.e., dredging, (greater than past 20 yr) may be present, but recent channelization is not present. | | | | | Channelization may be extensive; embankments or shoring structures present on both banks; and 40 to 80% of stream reach channelized and disrupted. | | | | | Banks shored with gabion or cement; over 80% of the stream reach channelized and disrupted. Instream habitat greatly altered or removed entirely. | | | | | |
| SCORE | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 7. Frequency of Riffles (or bends) | Occurrence of riffles relatively frequent; ratio of distance between riffles divided by width of the stream <7:1 (generally 5 to 7); variety of habitat is key. In streams where riffles are continuous, placement of boulders or other large, natural obstruction is important. | | | | | Occurrence of riffles infrequent; distance between riffles divided by the width of the stream is between 7 to 15. | | | | | Occasional riffle or bend; bottom contours provide some habitat; distance between riffles divided by the width of the stream is between 15 to 25. | | | | | Generally all flat water or shallow riffles; poor habitat; distance between riffles divided by the width of the stream is a ratio of >25. | | | | | |
| SCORE | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 8. Bank Stability (score each bank) | Banks stable; evidence of erosion or bank failure absent or minimal; little potential for future problems. <5% of bank affected. | | | | | Moderately stable; infrequent, small areas of erosion mostly healed over. 5-30% of bank in reach has areas of erosion. | | | | | Moderately unstable; 30-60% of bank in reach has areas of erosion; high erosion potential during floods. | | | | | Unstable; many eroded areas; "raw" areas frequent along straight sections and bends; obvious bank sloughing; 60-100% of bank has erosional scars. | | | | | |
| Note: determine left or right side by facing downstream. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCORE ____ (LB) | Left Bank | 10 | 9 | | | 8 | 7 | 6 | | | 5 | 4 | 3 | | | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | |
| SCORE ____ (RB) | Right Bank | 10 | 9 | | | 8 | 7 | 6 | | | 5 | 4 | 3 | | | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | |
| 9. Vegetative Protection (score each bank) | More than 90% of the streambank surfaces and immediate riparian zone covered by native vegetation, including trees, understory shrubs, or nonwoody macrophytes; vegetative disruption through grazing or mowing minimal or not evident; almost all plants allowed to grow naturally. | | | | | 70-90% of the streambank surfaces covered by native vegetation, but one class of plants is not well-represented; disruption evident but not affecting full plant growth potential to any great extent; more than one-half of the potential plant stubble height remaining. | | | | | 50-70% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation; disruption obvious; patches of bare soil or closely cropped vegetation common; less than one-half of the potential plant stubble height remaining. | | | | | Less than 50% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation; disruption of streambank vegetation is very high; vegetation has been removed to 5 centimeters or less in average stubble height. | | | | | |
| SCORE ____ (LB) | Left Bank | 10 | 9 | | | 8 | 7 | 6 | | | 5 | 4 | 3 | | | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | |
| SCORE ____ (RB) | Right Bank | 10 | 9 | | | 8 | 7 | 6 | | | 5 | 4 | 3 | | | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | |
| 10. Riparian Vegetative Zone Width (score each bank riparian zone) | Width of riparian zone >18 meters; human activities (i.e., parking lots, roadbeds, clear-cuts, lawns, or crops) have not impacted zone. | | | | | Width of riparian zone 12-18 meters; human activities have impacted zone only minimally. | | | | | Width of riparian zone 6-12 meters; human activities have impacted zone a great deal. | | | | | Width of riparian zone <6 meters; little or no riparian vegetation due to human activities. | | | | | |
| SCORE ____ (LB) | Left Bank | 10 | 9 | | | 8 | 7 | 6 | | | 5 | 4 | 3 | | | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | |
| SCORE ____ (RB) | Right Bank | 10 | 9 | | | 8 | 7 | 6 | | | 5 | 4 | 3 | | | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | |

Parameters to be evaluated broader than sampling reach

Total Score _____

HABITAT ASSESSMENT FIELD DATA SHEET—LOW GRADIENT STREAMS (FRONT)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| STREAM NAME | LOCATION | |
| STATION # _____ RIVERMILE _____ | STREAM CLASS | |
| LAT _____ LONG _____ | RIVER BASIN | |
| STORET # | AGENCY | |
| INVESTIGATORS | | |
| FORM COMPLETED BY | DATE _____ TIME _____ AM PM | REASON FOR SURVEY |

| Parameters to be evaluated in sampling reach | Habitat Parameter | Condition Category | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|-------------|
| | Optimal | Suboptimal | Marginal | Poor | |
| 1. Epifaunal Substrate/ Available Cover | Greater than 50% of substrate favorable for epifaunal colonization and fish cover; mix of snags, submerged logs, undercut banks, cobble or other stable habitat and at stage to allow full colonization potential (i.e., logs/snags that are <u>not</u> new fall and <u>not</u> transient). | 30-50% mix of stable habitat; well-suited for full colonization potential; adequate habitat for maintenance of populations; presence of additional substrate in the form of newfall, but not yet prepared for colonization (may rate at high end of scale). | 10-30% mix of stable habitat; habitat availability less than desirable; substrate frequently disturbed or removed. | Less than 10% stable habitat; lack of habitat is obvious; substrate unstable or lacking. | |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| 2. Pool Substrate Characterization | Mixture of substrate materials, with gravel and firm sand prevalent; root mats and submerged vegetation common. | Mixture of soft sand, mud, or clay; mud may be dominant; some root mats and submerged vegetation present. | All mud or clay or sand bottom; little or no root mat; no submerged vegetation. | Hard-pan clay or bedrock; no root mat or vegetation. | |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| 3. Pool Variability | Even mix of large-shallow, large-deep, small-shallow, small-deep pools present. | Majority of pools large-deep; very few shallow. | Shallow pools much more prevalent than deep pools. | Majority of pools small-shallow or pools absent. | |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| 4. Sediment Deposition | Little or no enlargement of islands or point bars and less than <20% of the bottom affected by sediment deposition. | Some new increase in bar formation, mostly from gravel, sand or fine sediment; 20-50% of the bottom affected; slight deposition in pools. | Moderate deposition of new gravel, sand or fine sediment on old and new bars; 50-80% of the bottom affected; sediment deposits at obstructions, constrictions, and bends; moderate deposition of pools prevalent. | Heavy deposits of fine material, increased bar development; more than 80% of the bottom changing frequently; pools almost absent due to substantial sediment deposition. | |
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HABITAT ASSESSMENT FIELD DATA SHEET—LOW GRADIENT STREAMS (BACK)

| Habitat Parameter | Condition Category | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|-------------|
| | Optimal | Suboptimal | Marginal | Poor | |
| 6. Channel Alteration | Channelization or dredging absent or minimal; stream with normal pattern. | Some channelization present, usually in areas of bridge abutments; evidence of past channelization, i.e., dredging, (greater than past 20 yr) may be present, but recent channelization is not present. | Channelization may be extensive; embankments or shoring structures present on both banks; and 40 to 80% of stream reach channelized and disrupted. | Banks shored with gabion or cement; over 80% of the stream reach channelized and disrupted. Instream habitat greatly altered or removed entirely. | |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| 7. Channel Sinuosity | The bends in the stream increase the stream length 3 to 4 times longer than if it was in a straight line. (Note - channel braiding is considered normal in coastal plains and other low-lying areas. This parameter is not easily rated in these areas.) | The bends in the stream increase the stream length 1 to 2 times longer than if it was in a straight line. | The bends in the stream increase the stream length 1 to 2 times longer than if it was in a straight line. | Channel straight; waterway has been channelized for a long distance. | |
| | SCORE | 20 19 18 17 16 | 15 14 13 12 11 | 10 9 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 2 1 0 |
| 8. Bank Stability (score each bank) | Banks stable; evidence of erosion or bank failure absent or minimal; little potential for future problems. <5% of bank affected. | Moderately stable; infrequent, small areas of erosion mostly healed over. 5-30% of bank in reach has areas of erosion. | Moderately unstable; 30-60% of bank in reach has areas of erosion; high erosion potential during floods. | Unstable; many eroded areas; "raw" areas frequent along straight sections and bends; obvious bank sloughing; 60-100% of bank has erosional scars. | |
| | SCORE ___ (LB) | Left Bank 10 9 | 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 | 2 1 0 |
| | SCORE ___ (RB) | Right Bank 10 9 | 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 | 2 1 0 |
| 9. Vegetative Protection (score each bank) | More than 90% of the streambank surfaces and immediate riparian zone covered by native vegetation, including trees, understory shrubs, or nonwoody macrophytes; vegetative disruption through grazing or mowing minimal or not evident; almost all plants allowed to grow naturally. | 70-90% of the streambank surfaces covered by native vegetation, but one class of plants is not well-represented; disruption evident but not affecting full plant growth potential to any great extent; more than one-half of the potential plant stubble height remaining. | 50-70% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation; disruption obvious; patches of bare soil or closely cropped vegetation common; less than one-half of the potential plant stubble height remaining. | Less than 50% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation; disruption of streambank vegetation is very high; vegetation has been removed to 5 centimeters or less in average stubble height. | |
| | SCORE ___ (LB) | Left Bank 10 9 | 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 | 2 1 0 |
| | SCORE ___ (RB) | Right Bank 10 9 | 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 | 2 1 0 |
| 10. Riparian Vegetative Zone Width (score each bank riparian zone) | Width of riparian zone >18 meters; human activities (i.e., parking lots, roadbeds, clear-cuts, lawns, or crops) have not impacted zone. | Width of riparian zone 12-18 meters; human activities have impacted zone only minimally. | Width of riparian zone 6-12 meters; human activities have impacted zone a great deal. | Width of riparian zone <6 meters; little or no riparian vegetation due to human activities. | |
| | SCORE ___ (LB) | Left Bank 10 9 | 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 | 2 1 0 |
| | SCORE ___ (RB) | Right Bank 10 9 | 8 7 6 | 5 4 3 | 2 1 0 |

Parameters to be evaluated broader than sampling reach

Total Score _____